

Polish tension rising as strike brings country to standstill

The Polish Government and Solidarity have adjourned talks to resolve the industrial crisis. The talks, which were resumed yesterday after the four-hour nationwide strike, were adjourned until today.

Tension in the country was reported at its highest point since the independent union organization first confronted the authorities nine months ago. Moscow blamed the KOR dissidents for the strike.

Walesa appeal for moderation

By Dan van der Vat

Tension in Poland appeared yesterday to have reached its highest point since the Solidarity trade union organization first confronted the Government and the party nine months ago, according to reports from Warsaw reaching the West.

Talks between the Government and leaders of the independent trade union organization, which were resumed in Warsaw last night after a two-day interruption and yesterday's four-hour national strike, have been adjourned without agreement being reached. They will be resumed today.

Against a background of "indefinitely extended" Warsaw Pact manoeuvres in the border region between Poland and the Soviet Union, dwindling national food supplies reduced to barely enough for 12 days and acute anxiety in East and West alike, attention is now focused on Sunday's crisis plenary session of the Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party.

An open-ended and total national strike is threatened for Tuesday unless Solidarity's increasingly militant leadership—less and less amenable to the moderating influence of Mr Lech Walesa, its chairman, obtains satisfaction from the Government on a list of 15 demands. Sunday's meeting is seen as crucial to the outcome of the renewed and intensified crisis and the fate of Poland itself.

The immediate cause of the present crisis is the violent intervention of police in a meeting between Solidarity representatives and the state regional council of Bydgoszcz, 150 miles north-west of Warsaw, on March 19, when three union men were badly beaten and had to go to hospital.

The incident led national Solidarity officials to call off the 90-day truce concluded with the new Government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski on February 12, during which the union promised not to strike while negotiations continued.

Mr Walesa opposed strike action, but conceded yesterday's four-hour stoppage, believed by observers to be the greatest organized labour protest in the post-war history of Eastern Europe, in the hope of forestalling

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ing an immediate and indefinite general strike.

Unless the talks, which began on Wednesday and were broken off after 90 minutes until their resumption—and then adjournment—yesterday evening, concessions, Tuesday's threat of a general strike appears inevitable. This in turn could force the Government to declare a state of emergency or martial law and call in its own military forces as a last desperate measure to prevent Soviet intervention.

According to news agency dispatches and Polish radio broadcasts, millions of workers all over the country downed tools at 8 am local time (7 am GMT) and resumed work at noon. The strike began two hours earlier at Silesian coal mines and also lasted four hours.

Solidarity claims the support of 10 million workers, more than two-thirds of the total labour force. According to yesterday's reports, the whole of Poland came to a virtual standstill while the factory sirens sounded the strike call, supported by the foghorns of ships in the Baltic ports.

Only emergency services including hospitals, gas, electricity, water, long-distance trains, and industrial plants such as steel and petrochemical works which it would have been dangerous to stop, were allowed to go on working. At the gates of Warsaw University a huge banner went up bearing the Solidarity word "Strajk", and a card bearing the single word "Solidarity" filled the nation's television screens in place of the usual station symbol until it was removed precisely at noon.

Mr Walesa toured plants in the Warsaw area to address workers and repeatedly expressed confidence in General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister. "We have come to the con-

clusion that we can trust this uniform."

The Warsaw strike leadership said in a statement relayed by Reuters: "We are striking for four hours today to avail ourselves of the last chance of not having to strike for four weeks."

We are striking so that we may never again be beaten, jailed or slandered, so that the police will pursue criminals, not unionists. "We are striking to make those in power realize that Solidarity is an inalienable piece of Polish life and that any attempt to liquidate it would be the work of traitors or madmen. We reject the charge that we are unwittingly strengthening the hawks in the ruling apparatus."

We are giving the authorities a chance to effect internal changes, a chance to come to terms with society."

The union is demanding the dismissal of officials whom it holds responsible for the police raid at Bydgoszcz as well as the furtherance of its previous general demands.

At the Ursus tractor works outside Warsaw, Mr Walesa said: "We are striking against ourselves but there is no other way. If we lose this time, we shall never rise again." Mr Walesa vehemently and repeatedly denied charges from Polish party hardliners, which were echoed by Russian, Czechoslovak and East German official commentators, that Solidarity was anti-socialist.

This was a convenient slogan for those who talked of socialism but did nothing. Mr Walesa said. He also criticized "provocateurs" within Solidarity who were trying to push the movement too far.

The BBC monitoring service at Caversham, near Reading, yesterday picked up signs of apparent disarray within the Polish Communist Party. A service official said: "Local party committees are being queried as to whether they are for or against the strike. It is understood that the case against Sir Roger is being reviewed."

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The Queen, photographed yesterday with the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer, at Buckingham Palace after giving formal consent to their marriage at a meeting of the Privy Council (Report, page 3).

Spy chief says 'Young Turks' behind scandal

By Louis Heren

Sir Dick White, the former chief of MI5 and MI6, yesterday welcomed the Prime Minister's statement in Parliament this week, and said that the late Roger Hollis must finally be exonerated from charges of spying for the Soviet Union when he was Director-General of the Security Service.

Sir Dick said that Sir Roger was promoted because of his integrity, objectivity and impartiality in times of crisis. Anyone who had worked with him would know that the charges were baseless.

Sir Dick, who became the intelligence coordinator at the MI6, would say no more but he was presumably asked to assist Lord Trenchard when he reviewed the case against Sir Roger in 1974 and the Prime Minister before she made her statement.

It is understood that the case against Sir Roger is being reviewed. The charges against Sir Roger were that he was a member of the KGB and that he had infiltrated the Solidarity movement.

That could border on paranoia, as is clear in several books which have been published in the last few years. That is illustrated by charges passed on to a group of Conservative MPs apparently still eager to reopen the Hollis case.

The charges allege that Sir Roger was the leader of a group of 15 MI5 and MI6 men who also worked for the KGB. They were said to include his deputy and four departmental heads.

They were protected, so it is alleged, by the KGB which assassinated an MI6 man stationed overseas whenever a counter-intelligence man became suspicious. They would then trump up charges against him and, with the permission of the Prime Minister, order the SAS to eliminate him.

Those allegations are said to have been passed on to Mrs Margaret Thatcher after the Blunt debate.

That is, to say the least, highly improbable, whatever their political enemies may think of Mrs Thatcher, Sir Harold Wilson, Mr Edward Heath and Lord Home.

MI5 are directly accountable to the Government, MI6 to the Foreign Secretary.

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That is true, and Mr William Colby, the CIA director who requested Mr Angleton's resignation, came to that conclusion, Sir Roger Hollis was the victim of KGB disinformation.

It is true, as discrediting of the British intelligence services must be a prime KGB objective. As one member of the intelligence services said recently, only two MI5 men, Philby and Blunt, are known to have worked for the Soviet Union, a poor score when compared with the successes of MI5 and MI6 in uncovering and using KGB agents.

MI5 inquiry ordered into Pincher sources

By Stewart Tendler

The Prime Minister has ordered MI5 to investigate the sources behind Mr Chapman Pincher's book on Russian spies and discover whether any classified information was leaked.

The inquiry was revealed yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher in an answer to a written question in the Commons. Any evidence of a breach of the Official Secrets Act will be put before Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, for possible prosecution.

The inquiry, the fourth ordered up the past year, into leaks of information in public departments, comes after claims in the book that Sir Roger Hollis, former head of MI5, might have been a Soviet agent.

Yesterday, Mr Pincher said he had always protected his sources. "This has happened to me so many times," he said, "I could not be more relaxed about it."

The Security Service began work on Thursday as Mr Pincher's book, *Theirs Trade is Treachery*, was published and Mrs Thatcher cleared Sir Roger's name in a Commons statement. She said that two inquiries had failed to incriminate him. He died in 1973.

Whitehall sources said yesterday that it would be for the MI5 officers to decide whether to interview Mr Pincher. The investigation would be pursued briskly.

Earlier this week one former

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SDP phone-in centres doing brisk business

By Ian Bradley

The launch of the Social Democrats' new party continued yesterday as its founders held a further series of meetings across the country and the 21 phone-in centres reported brisk business as new members enrolled.

Dr David Owen spoke at Bristol and Oxford, Mr William Rodgers at Newcastle before going on to his Stockton constituency, and Mrs Shirley Williams was in the Glasgow area.

The pace for the "Gang of Four", which has been hectic for the past 48 hours, is likely to slacken over the weekend. They will meet in Oxford this afternoon for the wedding of the party's secretary, Mr Alec McGivern, Dr Owen flies to the United States tomorrow.

Although they are not keeping a tally of membership recruitment, the telephone banks were generally pleased with the response from the public yesterday.

Mrs Celia Goodhart, who is running the London bank, estimated that between 600 and 700 calls had been received on Thursday and another 1,000 by late yesterday afternoon, with calls coming in at the rate of 100 an hour.

The Birmingham centre was reporting about thirty calls an hour. Liverpool said that there had been a strong increase after the evening television news programmes about the party's launch on Thursday.

Figures for membership as a result of the phone-in facilities will not be available, until the middle of next week.

But Mr Rodgers admitted that, despite his initial scepti-

cism, the phone-in idea had proved worthwhile. Speaking from Stockton yesterday afternoon, he said: "The telephones in Middlesbrough have been ringing fairly steadily."

Speaking in Oxford, Dr Owen said that he expected membership to exceed 60,000 by the end of the year.

Meanwhile the Labour Party has released figures suggesting that few of its members in seats now represented in Parliament by Social Democrats have resigned. According to the national executive, only four Labour members have resigned in Newcastle East (Mr Michael Thomas), one from Stockton-on-Tees (Mr Rodgers), and none from Thornaby-on-Tees (Mr Ian Wigglesworth) and Gateshead West (Mr John Horam).

Labour Party membership in 1980 totalled 553,950, an increase of 74,000 over 1975.

Peer defects: Lord Weidenfeld, the publisher, who was made a Labour peer in Sir Harold Wilson's 1976 honours list, announced his predicted defection to the SDP. (Our Political Editor writes).

Lord Weidenfeld, chairman of Weidenfeld and Nicolson, is the former Prime Minister's publisher. His defection, with that of Lady Stedman, a junior Minister at the Department of the Environment in Mr Callaghan's government, brings to 21 the number of former Labour and crossbench peers who have defected to the SDP.

The blow to Labour's already hard pressed ranks in the Lords is a severe one, Lady Stedman had been an Opposition spokesman in the Lords.

No need for leader page 2

Russians say political instigators now controlling Solidarity

From Michael Biason

Warsaw, March 27

The Russians today blamed the dissident KOR (Self-Defence Committee) for today's strike in Poland, and said Solidarity had also revealed its "openly political nature."

In a roughly worded Tass dispatch from Warsaw, which in the present tense situation represents the authoritative view of the Soviet leadership, the Russians said the leaders of the "counter-revolutionary organization" KOR, who had entrenched themselves within Solidarity, were aggravating tension within Poland by organizing a strike that disrupted the lives of millions of people.

Calling Solidarity's actions openly political, the agency said: "What attracts attention is the fact that the present strike was organized by Solidarity to bring political pressure in the Government to make it accept the demands of an anti-socialist, anti-people nature."

"Thereby the leaders of the trade union association have again shown their true colours as political instigators who are

blocking the country's way out of the grave socio-economic crisis."

The report bitterly attacked the union for allowing "only West European and American correspondents to attend its gatherings and said that Solidarity was trying in this way to convey a false impression of the nature of the events.

But in a more significant and tougher condemnation by implication of the Polish authorities themselves, the report noted that Polish television had itself broadcast Solidarity's calls for a strike. "The announcers read out the relevant instructions", Tass said.

In a clear reflection of the Russian's deep anxiety over the trend of events, Tass went on: "During these alarming days the Polish public asks itself the question: where are the anti-socialist forces pushing the country? What will be the consequences for the economy? The same family of the disorganization of production and supplies to the population, of the chaos and anarchy implanted by the leaders of KOR-KOR and their

helpers who are acting ever more arrogantly?"

In a warning to the Polish people and with a clear call to the authorities to take tougher action against the union leadership and the dissidents, Tass quoted a Polish newspaper saying that those who were provoking conflicts, whipping up tensions and organizing disorder, while acting as mouthpieces of imperialist reaction, were a sort of "fifth column", trying to achieve the subversive aims of these anti-socialist elements.

Many of the phrases now regularly used by Soviet commentators represent the most serious charges levelled against Solidarity, and carry a strong implication of Soviet anger over the conclusions already made by the Polish authorities.

"Counter-revolutionary" connotes up to the Soviet mind the active overthrow of communism and has overtones of the armed struggle the Bolsheviks faced after the revolution. The same phrase was levelled against those said to be undermining the Communist parties in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Hungary in 1956.

That could border on paranoia, as is clear in several books which have been published in the last few years.

That is illustrated by charges passed on to a group of Conservative MPs apparently still eager to reopen the Hollis case. The charges allege that Sir Roger was the leader of a group of 15 MI5 and MI6 men who also worked for the KGB. They

were said to include his deputy and four departmental heads. They were protected, so it is alleged, by the KGB which assassinated an MI6 man stationed overseas whenever a counter-intelligence man became suspicious. They would then trump up charges against him and, with the permission of the Prime Minister, order the SAS to eliminate him.

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EEC fish talks end in failure after two hours

EEC fisheries ministers took only a few hours in Brussels to decide that they could not resolve the Community's long-running dispute over fishing policy. In a statement issued after the meeting the ministers said it had "proved impossible to arrive at a complete solution in such a short space of time." Mr Peter Walker, the British Agricultural Minister, and his EEC colleagues claimed some progress. They resolved to reach final decisions this spring.

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Action might have saved baby

Malcolm Page, who died aged 13 months of hypothermia and malnutrition, might have been saved by positive action by workers in the case, a report says. But signs that his mother could not cope with her home and four children did not lead to the necessary critical examination of the case.

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First inflation-linked stock goes on offer

The Government's first inflation-linked stock went on offer yesterday. The Bank of England announced that the allotment price for the issue of marketable stock linked to the retail price index would be 100 on the basis of a real return of 3 per cent a year. However, the Bank declined to give details of the total number of applications or the range of bids.

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12 years for
man who
used girl as
shield

Report says action by social workers might have saved baby

By Pat Hasty
Social Services Correspondent

Positive action might have saved the life of Malcolm Page, who died, aged 13 months, of hypothermia and malnutrition according to the report of a review set up by Essex Area Review Committee last year.

But strong indications that the boy's parents could not cope with him and four children did not lead to the necessary critical examination of the case, the report said.

Instead a case conference intended by nursing, police, social work and social work representatives left the social worker to continue as before in spite of strong signs that the treatment of the family was failing.

Eighteen months later, when a detective chief inspector visited the family home in Tilbury after the boy's death, beds were found soaked in urine and excrement was found in bedclothes and on floors.

The boy's parents were convicted of wilful neglect and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. The report made clear that it was not seeking to lay blame on the boy's death, but to draw lessons to avoid similar tragedies.

"There were, however, enough indications of the conditions in the house and of the lack of competent care that the parents have justified a high level of concern that the children were being emotionally and physically neglected, including a lack of adequate nutrition for Malcolm."

Malcolm Page, the youngest of four children, was born on December 27, 1977, but despite frequent attempts the health visitor did not see him until

March 7, 1978. She was allowed into the living room, where she was "horrified at what she found."

The room was squalid and there was a foul smell, the children had matted hair and were chubby.

Subsequently the family were given a home help after the bedrooms had been found to be in a disgusting condition. But although some improvements were made, all four children were taken into care the next month.

Three months later the children were returned home, still under care orders, after improvements had been made at the home. Conditions deteriorated again and the previous pattern of lack of cooperation with the home help continued.

But a case conference held in August, 1978, decided to leave the situation as it was, with increased home help. The case then drifted. In September, 1978, the social worker visited and found the living room fairly clean and tidy, but upstairs smelling pungently. Malcolm Page was in bed and his clothing and bedding were wet with urine.

No action was taken to remedy the situation. In November, 1978, a fourth case conference on the Page family was called, but only three people attended. There was a lack of analysis of information available.

Malcolm Page was taken to hospital on February 6, 1979, and died the next day. The panel concluded that the boy suffered from lack of nourishment over a period of weeks, followed by a period of acute malnutrition coupled with a decline in standards of care, which were already minimal.

Malcolm Page, report by the Panel appointed by the Essex Review Committee (County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex).

Mr Biggs fails to obtain his release

By Frances Gibb

Two Scotland Yard detectives (New to Bridgetown, Barbados) last night after magistrates at the South Western Court in London had signed a warrant for the extradition of Ronald Biggs, the fugitive train robber.

Det Inspector Edward Ellison and Det Constable Bernard Brown had been sent to advise the Barbados police on the extradition proceedings. Scotland Yard said. Meanwhile the warrant and other documents were sent by the Director of Public Prosecutions to the Home Office for forwarding to Barbados.

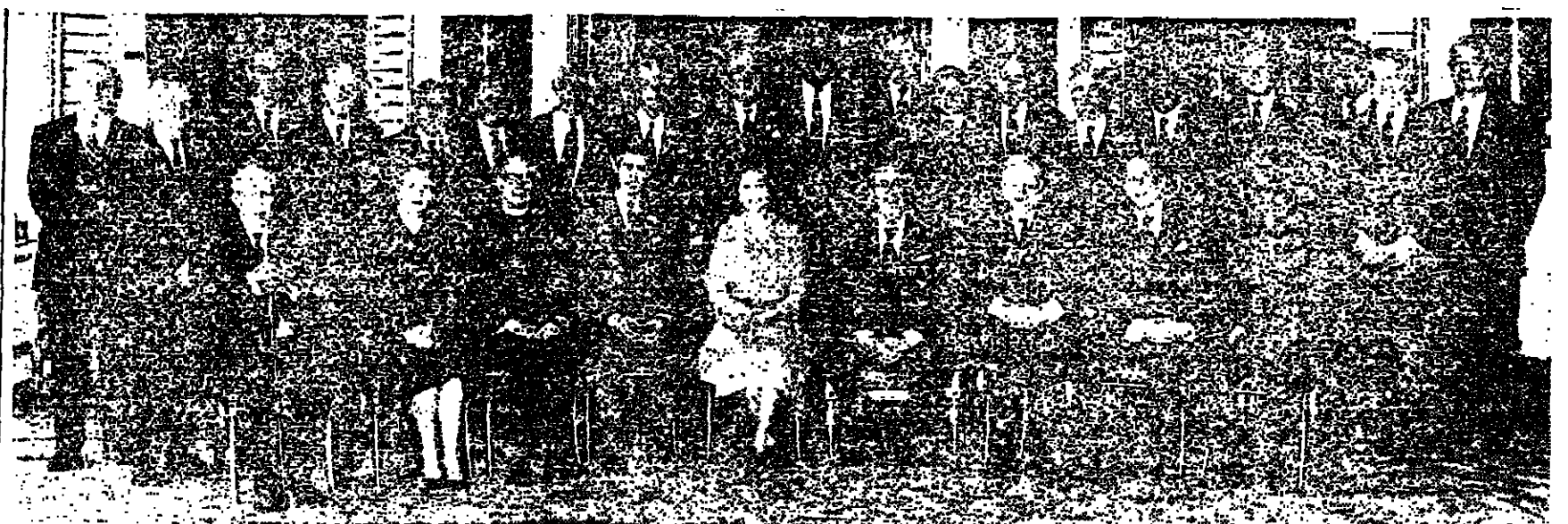
The Barbados High Court yesterday rejected Mr Biggs's plea of habeas corpus. Acting Chief Justice Denys Williams said the island's chief immigration officer was acting under statutory provisions. It had not been shown that he was acting in bad faith or otherwise improperly in detaining Mr Biggs. The immigration authorities had ordered him to be held because he did not have a passport.

Mr Biggs was taken after the court hearing to the police headquarters in Bridgetown, where he is staying in a room for sergeants. "He is not exactly in jail, but he is not exactly free," the police said.

A legal wrangle may now ensue, as the Brazilian authorities also want Mr Biggs's return and the Brazilian charge d'affaires on Thursday put his country's request before Mr M. G. Adams, the Prime Minister of Barbados.

The man said to have masterminded the kidnap of Mr Biggs, Mr John Miller, aged 35, a director of a security firm, was arrested at Heathrow airport, London, yesterday when he arrived from Barbados.

He had failed to appear at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court on Wednesday to answer charges of assault and causing an affray.



The Queen sitting with her Privy Council

After a visit to Cheltenham during which Lady Diana Spencer received a loyal greeting from the lips of a young admirer, the Queen yesterday gave her formal consent to the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana (a Staff Reporter writes). Her consent was required under the Royal Marriages Act, 1772, and after it had been given at a meeting of the Privy Council at Buckingham Palace the Queen posed for her first official photographs with the Prince and Lady Diana in the music room of the palace. For the first time photographers were also allowed to take pictures of the council.

The Prince and Lady Diana flew to the palace from Cheltenham, where they were making their second official appearance together on a visit to the headquarters of the Gloucestershire police who guard Highgrove House, which will be their home. Their helicopter landed and took off from the grounds of Dean Close School, where Nicholas Hardy, aged 18, from Slad, near Stroud, a school prefect, offered Lady Diana a daffodil

and asked: "May I kiss the hand of my future queen?" Lady Diana assented and the schoolboy leaned over the rope barrier, clasped her right hand and kissed it, to the cheers of his colleagues. Blushing and laughing, Lady Diana told him: "You will never live this down."

The Prince leaves tomorrow for a tour of New Zealand, Australia, Venezuela and the United States. Lady Diana will not be accompanying him. Buckingham Palace announced yesterday that on the advice of Mr Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia, the Prince is to become a Knight of the Order of Australia. During his stay in the country he will receive the insignia of the order from Sir Zelman Cowen, the Governor-General.

Back row, from left: Sir Neville Leigh, clerk of the council; Lord Adams; Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales; Lord Chatteris of Amisfield; Sir Harold Wilson, former Prime Minister; Lord Macdonald, the Lord Chamberlain; Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition;

Lord Home of the Hirsel; Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary; Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji; Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal; Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party; Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; Mr Donald Stewart, leader of the Parliamentary Scottish Nationalist Party; Mr Milton Cato, Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines; Mr Douglas Anthony, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia; Sir William Douglas, Chief Justice of Barbados; Sir Philip Moore, Private Secretary to the Queen; Mr David Thomson, Minister of State and Leader of the House of Representatives, New Zealand. Front row: Mr Harold Macmillan, former Prime Minister; Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister; the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie; the Prince of Wales; the Queen; Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council; Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone; Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons; and Dr Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius.

Murdoch letter over choice of editors

By a Staff Reporter

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, yesterday rejected a letter from Mr Rupert Murdoch outlining the steps taken in the appointment of new editors for The Times and The Sunday Times.

It also gives details of the appointment and approval of two new independent national directors, Sir Denis Hamilton and Sir Edward Pickering, to the board of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd.

Mr Murdoch's letter was sent to the Secretary of State in February after Mr Phillip Whitehead, Labour MP for Derby, North, had asked whether the independent national directors had been appointed directly by Mr Murdoch without consultation with or prior warning to the existing national directors.

The MP asked whether the independent national directors considered the preferences expressed internally for the editorship of The Times between three candidates, of whom Mr Harold Evans was one.

In a long and detailed letter to Mr Biffen, Mr Murdoch says the board of Times Newspapers unanimously agreed to the appointment of Mr Evans, as well as that of Mr Frank Giles as Editor of The Sunday Times, and that "at least 12 persons were consulted as candidates before these decisions were made."

It would have been theoretically possible to follow the required procedures in relation to the appointment of the two editors within the then existing board structure, he says.

But he was advised, and it was his own opinion, that because of the significance attached to the guarantees of editorial independence, it would have been wrong to proceed with the appointments without

first having constituted the board with a membership required by the amended articles of association.

The appointment of a working journalist from each of the newspapers, although formally nominated by the major shareholder, had to be approved in advance by the respective editors.

Mr Louis Heren, deputy editor of The Times, and Mr Robert Munn, managing editor of The Sunday Times, were approved and their election was put to the board of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd, "which unanimously resolved in favour of their appointment."

Mr Murdoch's letter adds that the nomination of independent national directors, although a matter for the major shareholder, requires the approval of the other independent national directors. The nominations of both Sir Denis Hamilton and Sir Edward Pickering were placed before the other independent national directors meeting privately.

"It was stated expressly to them that if any reservations as to the suitability of the nominations of either of them were entertained or if they would like to defer the decision for any period (and ultimately reject one or both of them) they were, of course, at liberty to do so."

His letter says: "After discussion amongst them, they informed me that they agreed unanimously to both nominations."

Subsequently, both the Board of TNL as a whole, and the independent national directors meeting separately, approved the appointments of the two editors. The board was informed that under the articles the board had both the right to reject either or both nominations and the right in either or both cases to propose for TNL's consideration another person or persons."

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East-West doctors call for nuclear war ban

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A declaration against nuclear weapons was issued yesterday by 80 eminent doctors and scientists from 11 countries after the first conference of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

The document, addressed to President Reagan and Mr Leonid Brezhnev, included among its signatories Professor Eugene Chasov, who is the Soviet leader's cardiologist. He was the leader of a Soviet delegation to the conference, held near Washington.

On arriving back in London yesterday Dr Leonid Fielding, one of the founders three months ago in Britain of the Medical Campaign against Nuclear Weapons, said the protest was an unprecedented international action by the medical profession.

He said physicians must work toward the prevention of nuclear weapons. Whatever anybody thought of war or whatever the use of nuclear weapons could no longer be considered, Dr Fielding said.

The message to Mr Reagan and Mr Brezhnev said: "We have for the past several days reviewed the data on the nature and magnitude of the effects that the use of nuclear weapons would bring. We have considered independently prepared medical and scientific analysis from many sources. Our conclusions are unanimous."

Dr Fielding said a four-day conference examined evidence of immediate death from nuclear war, the consequences of disruption for the health and medical services and other vital supplies, and the long-term effects of genetic damage.

Although the consequences of the attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were disastrous, even they were not adequate precedents for the destruction that would follow nuclear warfare today. It was imperative to distinguish between immediate and delayed effects.

The conclusions are:

1. Nuclear war would be a catastrophe with medical consequences of enormous magnitude and duration for both involved and uninvolved nations;
2. The holocaust would in its beginning kill tens to hundreds of millions of people. Most of the immediate survivors, suffering from wounds and burns inflicted by nuclear radiation, deprived of effective medical care or even food and water, would face the prospect of a slow and excruciating death;
3. The consequences of nuclear war would continue to affect succeeding generations and their environment for an indefinite period.

The message concludes: "Science and technology have placed the most deadly weapons of mass destruction in the hands of the two nations you lead. This huge accumulation imperils us all. The interests of the present and all future generations require that nuclear war must be avoided."

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Royal Opera to visit Manchester

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

The Royal Opera's visit to Manchester in May will go ahead, it was announced yesterday by the Palace Theatre, Manchester, after talks with local councils about finding extra finance. But another difficulty has occurred: three special bells needed for the performance have been stolen from Covent Garden.

The theatre said the visit could go ahead because the local authorities, Manchester City and Greater Manchester Councils had agreed to hold urgent talks with the Royal Opera and the Arts Council about financing the visit by the opera and by the Royal Ballet.

While the theatre did not give details of the agreement, the Arts Council understood that assurances had been given that an extra £25,000 would be found from local resources. The visit was put in question because the opera company estimated a £30,000 deficit. The Greater Manchester Council, but was offered only £5,000.

The bells, one of which weighs nearly two hundredweight, were stolen from the scenery store in the Floral Hall, Theatre Royal, Manchester, on old and valued at about £10,000, and were made specially to blend with the music in particular operas. The two Tosca bells were cast in Italy to simulate the sound of the church bells of Santa Andrea della Valle in Rome.

Floating ideas to breathe life into Old Father Thames London's empty river highway

By John Young
Planning Reporter

A great highway runs through the heart of London. Long stretches of it are virtually empty of traffic, and for much of its length it is inaccessible. It is called the River Thames.

The neglect of the capital's greatest natural asset, central to its whole history and one of the principal reasons for its very existence, is the theme of a weekend conference which began last night at the Iffs Evans all of University College London.

The speakers are examining by London, almost alone among European cities, makes negligible use of them. They are also considering the whole complex waterways which were built to carry passengers and goods, and which now lie forgotten and silted.

The Inland Waterways Association, which has organized the conference, has repeatedly pointed to the economic and environmental advantages of waterborne transport for the carriage of bulk cargoes. But its arguments have been met with lack of interest on the part of successive governments, which have starved the waterways of maintenance funds and money for improvement and expansion.

The Thames does not have to be maintained in the way that canals do. Nevertheless, it has lost almost all its commercial traffic in the past 20 years, a fact which Mr Michael West, the association's South-East Regional chairman, attributes to the closure of most of the docks and the disappearance of the narrowboats that could be used to carry cargoes inland on the canals.

"Of course we are not advocating the return of the narrowboats," Mr West says. "But we do say that, as in other parts of Europe, there is a role for widened and improved waterways." As for passenger traffic, he feels that experiments have shown that Londoners are not interested in commuting to work by water. But there could and should be many more pleasure boats.

At present boatowners are deterred by the shabby appearance of much of London's waterfront, and by the fact that Mr West finds it astonishing that so many disused riverside buildings should be left derelict, instead of being converted to new uses, and that large canal basins like that at Paddington, are deserted when there is a shortage of moorings in South-East England. "It would not happen in any other country," he observes.

Times' bribe allegation by accused former detective

By Michael Horsnell
Middlesex

Former Det Chief Supt William Moody, the disgraced head of Scotland Yard's obscene publication squad, was accused yesterday by another former Scotland Yard officer of making a bribe payment to Lord Thomson of Fleet, a late Lord Thomson of Fleet, when the newspaper was investigating corruption in the Metropolitan Police.

The allegation was made at a hearing at the Crown Court while Moody, who is serving a 12-month sentence for conspiracy of corruption, was giving evidence in the police corruption case at Middlesex.

Mr Moody told former Det Supt John Symonds that he had the Scotland Yard investigation into allegations by The Newsnight officers including Symonds.

It was then that the allegation about Lord Thomson was made by Mr Symonds, aged 40, who denies three charges according to a total of £150 in a young criminal in 1969.

in return for providing assistance over an arrest. Mr Symonds, who is defending himself, was severely reprimanded by Judge Angus Stevenson. Quid for making a number of "wholly improper allegations" to Mr Moody without the support of evidence.

Mr Symonds told Mr Moody: "I suggest you concocted much of the evidence which has been before this court in return for the payment of a bribe from the owner of The Times newspaper."

Mr Moody, who was brought to court from Durham prison and tendered by the prosecution for cross-examination by Mr Symonds, replied: "No."

Mr Symonds, who the prosecution alleges fled the country in 1972 shortly before his trial for conspiracy, said he had suggested that Mr Moody was himself a corrupt officer at the time he was investigating The Times allegations.

Mr Moody: "I deny that, but I was convicted."

The trial continues on Monday.

House prices boom is predicted

By Margaret Stone

House prices may be rising quite sharply by the end of the year, Sir Victor Achworth, chairman of the Nationwide Building Society, said at the society's annual meeting.

That is a much firmer prediction than most of Sir Herbert's fellow building society chairmen have been making.

The Nationwide's stand is based on the fact that three of the classic ingredients for a house price boom appear to be either present or imminent. Real wages (for those in employment) are rising; inflation is receding; and the recession, according to the Government, is bottoming out.

They also point to the prospects of further cuts in the mortgage interest rates later in the year, could raise confidence and stimulate demand. "Consequently," Sir Herbert said, "1981 could turn out to be a much better year for the housing market."

It would have been theoretically possible to follow the required procedures in relation to the appointment of the two editors within the then existing board structure, he says.

But he was advised, and it was his own opinion, that because of the significance attached to the guarantees of editorial independence, it would have been wrong to proceed with the appointments without

first having constituted the board with a membership required by the amended articles of association.

The appointment of a working journalist from each of the newspapers, although formally nominated by the major shareholder, had to be approved in advance by the respective editors.

Mr Louis Heren, deputy editor of The Times, and Mr Robert Munn, managing editor of The Sunday Times, were approved and their election was put to the board of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd, "which unanimously resolved in favour of their appointment."

Mr Murdoch's letter adds that the nomination of independent national directors, although a matter for the major shareholder, requires the approval of the other independent national directors meeting privately.

"It was stated expressly to them that if any reservations as to the suitability of the nominations of either of them were entertained or if they would like to defer the decision for any period (and ultimately reject one or both of them) they were, of course, at liberty to do so."

His letter says: "After discussion amongst them, they informed me that they agreed unanimously to both nominations."

Subsequently, both the Board of TNL as a whole, and the independent national directors meeting separately, approved the appointments of the two editors. The board was informed that under the articles the board had both the right to reject either or both nominations and the right in either or both cases to propose for TNL's consideration another person or persons."

Local papers said, page 17

Royal yacht sailors jailed

By a Staff Reporter

Nine sailors from the royal yacht Britannia who were convicted of homosexual acts were sentenced yesterday to terms of detention of between 48 and 90 days and dismissed the service.

Most of the offences were understood to have taken place while the men were ashore in Portsmouth. Homosexual acts are illegal for members of the Forces.

Another rating was cleared and no decision was taken on what action is appropriate in the case of an eleventh man.

The nine were found guilty of charges under the Naval Discipline Act and/or the Sexual Offences Act. All 11 had opted for summary trial and appeared before Commander Michael Gibson, the master of HMS Nelson, the Royal Navy's barracks at Portsmouth.

Details of the men were not released by the Royal Navy. No indication was given of a homosexual offence has been sentenced to more than 90 days in the last decade.

Tory MP calls for elected House of Lords

By Our Political Staff

A call to consider an elected second Chamber, a reduction in the Commons from 625 MPs to 400 and extending the life of a Parliament from five to seven years was made last night by Mr John Peyton, Conservative MP for Yeovil and a minister.

In a speech in his constituency of some disillusionment with the way Parliament functions and the lack of a coherent government approach to industry, Mr Peyton criticized "publicly-hungry committees" in the Commons whose effect on governments "is to make them worse."

Regarding the alternating attitudes of successive governments towards industry, Mr Peyton, while praising Mrs Margaret Thatcher, made an indirect attack on the way the Government and the Civil Service dealt with it.

Mr Peyton, after criticizing the unions and the striking civil servants said: "What we require is not a frail and short-lived consensus... but a new measure of understanding and determination among the moderates."

Animal ban to stay

By a Staff Reporter

Restrictions on animal movements in the 1,000 square miles in Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight cordoned to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease will remain in force for at least another nine days. Up to last night there had been no more outbreaks.

Wheelchair death

Police were yesterday investigating a fire at the home in Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire, of Mr James Haig, aged 25, a member of Exit, the euthanasia group. The body of a man in a wheelchair was discovered in the house.

Detention centre theft

Thieves have broken into the "short, sharp, shock" detention centre at Sand, Surrey. They stole £200 in cash, a television set, a cassette player, cigarettes and spirits.

Ching-Ching returns

Ching-Ching, London Zoo's giant panda, was back on view yesterday after two weeks in the zoo's hospital. She is eating well again and has regained some weight.

Three oil companies raise price of petrol by 4p

By John Huxley

Pump prices of Shell, BP and National petrol will go up by an average of 4p a gallon from midnight tomorrow. The companies said yesterday that the increases were not sufficient to cover costs and that further rises were likely.

Earlier this week Esso, which shares leadership of the British petrol market with Shell, and Mobil announced increases of only 2p a gallon. It is possible that they will soon announce a further rise.

Both Shell and BP, which markets National petrol, are raising the price at which they supply dealers and reducing the competitive allowances, or "temporary sales rebate", available to them. The effect will be to push prices up to a gallon of 151p and 157p a gallon for four star.

Last year the United Kingdom arm of Royal Dutch/Shell made profits after tax of £373m, but it has been showing a loss of an estimated 4p to 5p a gallon on its products in recent months. BP lost £73m on its United Kingdom refining and marketing operations in 1980.

Each company is also increasing the price of its fuel oil by about 3p a gallon in a move which adds to the burden of rising energy costs being borne by industry.

BP explained last night that it is now disadvantaged by not having access to crude oil from Saudi Arabia. The cost of the disadvantage is put at about \$4 a barrel.

Despite the raising of prices, which comes on top of the 20p a gallon increase in duty announced in the Budget, the petrol market remains fiercely competitive.

Observers are by no means sure that the increases announced this week will stick, especially in the North of England, where price cutting has been most intense. There the big oil companies are providing most support for dealers in the form of competitive allowances.

The latest increases mean that prices have doubled in the past three years and have risen by almost 30 per cent since the beginning of this year.

Shell added yesterday that losses could not continue if cash was to be found for continuing North Sea development. That had been affected by the supplementary petroleum duty announced in the Budget.

x-PC jailed for reventing

By a Staff Reporter

oman's burial

Peter Swindell was cleared yesterday of the manslaughter of a prostitute but was jailed five years for preventing burial by dismembering her body and dumping it in Epping forest, Essex. He had admitted that offence.

The jury at the Central Criminal Court took five hours to reach its verdict clearing Mr Swindell, a former Metropolitan policeman, of unlawfully killing Miss Pat Malone, aged 22, his home in Walthamstow, London.

Justice Paine said: "It is particularly serious, as it was committed by a member of the police force, who was better than anyone of the reason why the prevention of a dead body is an offence."

The prosecution had alleged that Mr Swindell's bizarre obsession with bondage and death caused Miss Malone's death. It was suggested that she had been smothered in a tight-fitting mask during abnormal sexual acts.

But Mr Swindell denied that he killed her.

A sport for both brain and brawn

By a Staff Reporter

Life and leisure

Ronald Faux

checkpoints in the shortest possible time. They set off at one-minute intervals, not necessarily on the same course, so there is no point in following the man in front.

The orienteer must use every slight piece of information on the map to his advantage, each small stream, landmark, change in terrain and contour, to plan the quickest way around the course. He has to think very quickly, because sometimes a detour may be the quickest way to a particular checkpoint, and that decision has to be made from one glance at the map. I was told.

The main orienteering event in Britain is named after the late Jan Kjellstrom, who helped to introduce the sport to Britain. This year it takes place over four days in Easter on Cannock Chase, Staffordshire.

Mr Mason said there were 150 affiliated clubs in Britain which for purposes of orienteering was divided into 12 regions. Many schools had shown interest

Life and leisure

Ronald Faux

in the sport, although unlike in Scandinavia it was not a part of the curriculum. "We have hopes because there is a lot of value in terms of geography, exercise and understanding maps. It is equally physical and mental," he said.

Orienteering is not expensive. Membership of the movement, including federation and local clubs' costs, is between £8 and £10 a year. All that is needed is a track suit, running shoes and a good compass. The British federation at 41 Dale Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, will put inquiries in touch with their nearest club.

Britain produces some first-class orienteering talent and is reckoned to be second only to Scandinavia. British orienteers won the Continental Cup competition near Paris last year and the British champion, Chris Hirst, is an Army captain from Yorkshire.

Leading British orienteers include Glen Grant, a four-minute mile and Squadron Leader Geoff Peck, an RAF pilot, both of whom competed in the New York Marathon. Other British sportsmen who have competed from time to time include John Disley, Christopher Brasher and Dr Roger Bannister.

Washington sounds alarm on Poland

From David Cross

Washington, March 27

President Reagan and his senior foreign policy advisers are continuing to sound loud alarms about possible Soviet intervention in Poland in the very near future.

In a series of separate meetings with reporters here, leaders of the Administration emphasised that the situation in that country was in the words of President Reagan last night "very serious and very tense".

Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said that Washington was watching developments in and around Poland "moment by moment". An invasion by Soviet troops was "not necessarily inevitable, although clearly the tensions today are far more worrisome than earlier in the month."

The Secretary of State said that concern about Poland had been raised significantly by a number of factors, including today's four-hour national strike by Polish workers, an apparent split between hardliners and moderates in the Polish Communist Party over how to deal with the labour unrest, and the extension of Warsaw Pact military exercises in and around Poland for the next week at least.

Voicing similar fears, Mr Edwin Meese, White House Counselor to the President, told a television interviewer today that if Soviet troops moved into Poland, it would be a very serious threat to world peace.

Reinforcing this warning, Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told reporters that an invasion would end any possibility of arms control talks between Washington and Moscow of all types and at all levels of discussion.

The Defence Secretary said that Washington had expected the military manoeuvres by the Warsaw Pact nations to end the day, but their extension, perhaps indefinitely, was a source of serious concern to the Administration here.

Late this afternoon members of the Senate joined the chorus of warnings to Moscow. A resolution approved unanimously by the 96 members of the Senate present at the time said Soviet intervention in Poland would violate existing international law and would have grave consequences for East-West relations.

These warnings followed the publication late yesterday afternoon of a five-paragraph White House statement in Mr Reagan's name stating categorically that the United States had "serious concerns" with growing concern indications that Polish authorities may be preparing to use force to deal with continuing differences in that country between the authorities and labour unions.

It added: "We are similarly concerned that the Soviet Union may intend to undertake repressive action in Poland."

According to well-informed officials here, the American Ambassador in Warsaw was summoned to the Foreign Ministry earlier this week and told that the situation in Poland was extremely tense.



Faces in the front line. Polish steel workers listen intently to Mr Lech Walesa yesterday at a rally near Warsaw.

The ambassador was told of Poland's dire economic problems and asked to urge Washington not to do anything which might inflame the situation unnecessarily.

Yesterday's White House statement sought to do just that. It reiterated Washington's belief that Poland should be allowed to resolve its own problems without outside intervention of any kind; it welcomed past assurances by the Polish government and trade unions that they intended to resolve their differences peacefully and in a spirit of "compromise and conciliation"; and it emphasized Washington's continuing readiness to assist Poland in its present economic and financial troubles.

In the context of economic and financial assistance, the statement also referred specifically to a visit to Washington next week by Mr Mieczyslaw Jaskolski, Polish Deputy Prime Minister. Talks already scheduled for next Thursday and Friday with officials here are designed to discuss possible American economic assistance. The United States has already deferred the payment of some \$80m owed to it and is considering longer-term aid.

While the Administration continues to monitor events in and around Poland, officials will be watching a number of forthcoming events with particular vigilance. On Sunday the central committee of the Polish Communist Party is due to meet in Warsaw. On Monday the Polish Parliament is due to hold a session reviewing developments in the country, and on Tuesday the national strike of Polish workers is due to get underway.

The officials fear that the strike could provoke a violent confrontation between the workers and the Polish forces of law and order. If the Polish authorities fail to bring the violence under control swiftly, then the Soviet Union might argue that it had no other choice but to send in its troops, the officials believe.

Paris: The Western allies have agreed on steps they would take if the Soviet Union intervened in Poland, M Jean Francois-Poncet, the French Foreign Minister, has told the Senate foreign committee.

During last night's hearing he said: "There is an agreement among the Western powers on measures to be taken in the event of an outside intervention in Poland." He did not disclose the plan but said France would take economic sanctions.

Hanover: Herr Hans Apel, the West German Defence Minister, said today the Polish situation was not a military challenge to the West. In a radio interview, he said the operational area of Nato ended at the East-West German frontier.

"That means, in substance, we look at the whole situation with great concern... but it is not a military challenge to Nato. It is rather a political question to be considered here now, and must be dealt with in this framework," he said.

He said he had discussed Poland in talks in Washington earlier this week, which included discussions with Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary.—UPI and Reuter.

had been flooded with anti-communist literature which was as far as threatening to murder party officials.

The newspaper also reprinted a commentary from the Hungarian daily Magyar Hirlap which said Solidarity's first actions revealed the real political aims of the union "and of the counter-revolutionary forces hidden within it".

Prague: A Czechoslovak trade union newspaper alleged that Solidarity was organizing in West Germany, an allegation made yesterday by Neues Deutschland.

The Czechoslovak paper Prace said that during the Nazi occupation of Poland millions of people had been killed. "Every Pole must therefore be deeply angered that Solidarity leaders associate with the successors of those who have on their conscience the suffering of the Polish nation during the war."

This proved that Solidarity representatives were prepared to unite with Poland's worst enemies in a campaign against socialism, the paper added.

Bucharest: Romanian newspapers published a Communist Party resolution urging that Polish communists should be allowed to overcome their crisis "without any outside interference".

President Ceausescu, who condemned the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, has consistently argued against outside involvement.

The Hungarian, Czechoslovak and Bulgarian communist parties held central committee meetings yesterday, and it was assumed the heightened tension in Poland was discussed.

Belgrade: Mr Dragoslav Markovic, President of the Yugoslav Parliament, told a press conference yesterday: "Intervention is no solution, since every intervention calls for a new intervention."—Reuter.

East German attack on free trade union

Berlin: East Germany today accused the Solidarity free trade union organization of organizing a counter-revolutionary campaign throughout Poland.

The official daily Neues Deutschland said tension was now increasing in Poland from day to day "because the leadership of Solidarity has stepped up its course of confrontation". It described today's four-hour warning strike in Poland and plans for a general strike next Tuesday as "provocations".

To back up the strikes, Solidarity's leaders "have unleashed a counter-revolutionary agitation campaign throughout the entire People's Republic of Poland", Neues Deutschland said. The country

had been flooded with anti-communist literature which was as far as threatening to murder party officials.

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Warsaw Pact mechanized units cross a pontoon bridge. The photograph, like most information about the manoeuvres, comes from official East European sources.

Four speeches in four hours by the busiest Pole

Warsaw, March 27.—The busiest person in Poland during today's four-hour strike was clearly Mr Lech Walesa.

In those four hours he sped in a column of cars, with security men provided by the Government, to address workers at four big enterprises in the Warsaw area.

His last stop was the huge Hut Warszawa steel mill, known for the militancy of its 16,000 workers.

Preaching prudence, Mr Walesa instructed his audience to stay out of trouble and avoid violence.—UPI.

No state represented here has any special 'rights' but all, including the biggest and strongest of us, do have responsibilities to set an example in respecting the sovereignty of others, and the contributions that all nations, big and small, can make," Mr Max Kampelman, the chief American delegate, told a plenary session.

Before the signing of the Helsinki Final Act, tragic developments in Europe had occurred because of the failure to apply such principles. Indeed, a "doctrine" was created, Mr Kampelman observed, in order to legitimize interference in other countries' internal affairs.

Statements with an ominous and familiar ring had been heard once again that the entire socialist community had certain special defence rights.

But, the chief American delegate went on, "given the

existence of the Helsinki Act, nobody can argue with any shred of justification that such a 'doctrine' can have any moral or legal standing. Only if these commitments are honoured outside this meeting hall can we expect cooperation, understanding and agreement inside it."

It was "a matter of the utmost seriousness," Mr Kampelman added, that all states should act now in accordance with the principles of the Final Act; they must refrain from the use of force and respect the inviolability of frontiers and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

The Polish crisis has hung almost continuously over the security conference meeting in Madrid but today, in view of the gravity of events in Poland, the United States used the conference as a forum for a clear public warning to Moscow of the risks involved for the detente process itself.

As the Western and Soviet block positions remain deadlocked over a concluding document, the conference had today to extend its duration for another week. The Russians are demanding that a European disarmament conference must be agreed before his meeting could be wound up, while the West is no less firm that there must be "balanced progress" on other issues, including some discernible advance on human rights.

Miss Karen Anne Quinlan, who was at the centre of one of America's best-known "right-to-die" controversies, celebrated her twenty-seventh birthday on Sunday.

She lies in a coma in the foetal position in a New Jersey hospital being fed nasally and being turned over every two hours. Since she was removed from a respirator five years ago, she has been breathing normally although her weight has now dwindled to about 70lbs.

Miss Quinlan was admitted to hospital just after celebrating her twenty-first birthday in 1975 suffering from a mysterious illness which caused

massive damage to her brain. In September of that year Mr Joseph Quinlan asked the New Jersey court to remove his adopted daughter from the machine which had apparently been keeping her alive.

This produced a lengthy legal wrangle in which lawyers argued whether her family had the right to decide whether she should be allowed to remain linked to the respirator. The arguments centred on the definition of death and the legal rights of the family.

A year after she first became ill, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that Miss Quinlan should be allowed to remain in the machine, but that she was to be removed from the respirator. She has continued to survive in a nursing home

without the aid of any mechanical equipment. Although her birthday on Sunday will not receive the considerable publicity of her earlier days in hospital, Miss Quinlan's case is not forgotten.

The moral and legal questions surrounding the definition of death will come to public attention again in a few weeks when a special presidential commission report into the ethics of medical science.

The report commissioned by former President Carter is expected to produce recommendations for defining legal death as well as suggested rules to deal with new medical controversies like genetic engineering.

From Patricia Clough Bonn, March 27

The Hessen branch of the West German print union receded with delight to a court decision today rejecting a damages claim against union officials for allegedly preventing the printing of an international weekly edition of *The Times*.

A statement by the branch claimed that the ruling confirmed the legitimacy of their action on behalf of British print unions against what it saw as an attempt at strike-breaking.

The case arose from an attempt by *The Times* in April 1979, to publish a weekly edition for overseas readers while the daily paper was closed down.

The printing, by Terdrucker, a Turkish firm at Zepfelmühl, near Frankfurt, was abandoned after demonstrations and incidents at the works and a warning by police.

Terdrucker is suing three local union officials for 58,200 Marks (about £12,500) damages for illegal interference by holding a demonstration outside the works. The suit, which was upheld by a Frankfurt court last year, was referred on appeal to the Offenbach Labour Court, which today turned it down.

Frau Sylvia Schenk, the judge, ruled that the officials had not "in a juridical sense" interfered with the firm's business and had not put the plaintiff under duress.

Frau Schenk said afterwards that she had not entered into the question as to whether German unions were entitled to demonstrate or picket on behalf of British unions. Her decision concerned only the merits of the damages claim itself.

Mr Sermat Ilkic, the owner of Terdrucker, said he would appeal and take the case all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary.

The West hopes to reap rewards from generous aid to Zimbabwe

From Nicholas Asford Salisbury, March 27

The Zimbabwe conference on reconstruction and development ended here this evening with the massive sum of £636.73m having been pledged by aid donors for development projects over the next three years.

When aid commitments already made before the conference began are taken into account, it means that Zimbabwe has attracted a total of £689.58m in foreign assistance since the country became independent just under a year ago.

Of this total, slightly less than half is in the form of grants and the rest loans.

There is still more money to come. Dr Bernard Chidzero, Minister of Economic Planning and Development and chairman of this week's conference, said that some donors had been able to make commitments only for the coming fiscal year and others, such as Saudi Arabia and Japan, were actively considering larger aid programmes.

He was confident that, when this additional money was taken into account, the conference target of £800m would have been reached and probably exceeded. These funds are to be used for reconstruction, land resettlement, rural development and training programmes, which will form part of a three-year transitional development programme.

The success of the conference has far exceeded the expectations of the Zimbabwean organizers and of the 267 delegates representing 100 international agencies and 15 United Nations agencies who attended the meeting.

Mr Andries van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister, who spoke on behalf of the delegates at today's closing session, said the conference was "an enormous achievement", particularly at a time of declining economies, frightening increases in unemployment, and budgetary constraints among donor nations.

There are several reasons why Zimbabwe, which is a relatively wealthy country by African standards, has had its plea for help heeded by the international community.

One is economic. Zimbabwe's well-developed infrastructure and its prosperous farming, mining and manufacturing sectors means that it has a good chance of becoming self-sufficient in the near future.

Donor states, clearly anxious for a success story to show their electorates back home that aid is not simply being sunk into an endless desert of starvation and poverty, hope that, once Zimbabwe has repaired its war-torn economy, it will be able to stand on its own feet.

Another reason why Zimbabwe has had its plea for help heeded by the international community is its political stability. Zimbabwe has been a model of stability in southern Africa. They fear that,

As President Canaan Banana put it in his closing address: "Today we are grateful for receiving tomorrow we hope to be a proud and generous giver."

There is also a political reason for the donors' openness towards Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe occupies a key strategic position in southern Africa. It is the linchpin of the new nine-nation grouping of black states, known as the Southern Africa Development Co-ordinating Conference (SADC), which is striving to reduce its dependence on South Africa through greater regional cooperation.

Four of these countries depend on Zimbabwe for their links with coastal ports. Zimbabwe, which has produced a huge maize surplus this year, also has the capacity to feed its less fortunate neighbours. Plans are being considered to supply Zambia and Mozambique with up to 700,000 tons of maize this season, if transport and finance can be arranged.

Numerous delegates spoke of the need to assist regional programmes within SADC countries and some, including Britain, gave funds specifically for this purpose. Mr Archie Magwira, Foreign Minister of Botswana and present chairman of the SADC, commented that "the strength of any one of us is the strength of us all".

Zimbabwe also borders on South Africa, which is now the focal point of the international community's drive to abolish white supremacy and racial discrimination from the African continent. A stable, non-racial Zimbabwe could, it is believed, help to smooth the process of change in South Africa.

Western nations, in particular, have been anxious to underpin Zimbabwe's stability because of their large investments in southern Africa. They fear that,

if Zimbabwe was allowed to disintegrate into chaos because of lack of international support, the whole region would fall prey to Soviet expansionism.

There is also no doubt that some donors were emboldened by the point made by Mr Edmore Moyo, secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity, that Western investment in South Africa was 30 times greater than the total amount of assistance being sought by Zimbabwe.

It was no coincidence, therefore, that most of the aid committed during this week's conference came from Western sources. The biggest single donor is the World Bank, which has committed itself to a programme worth £205m over ten years.

Britain, the former colonial power, remains the highest bilateral donor with a programme worth £123m. This figure does not take into account items such as debt scheduling and the cost of Britain's military training programme which, according to Lord Soames, leader of the British delegation, would be more than £140m.

The second largest bilateral donor is the United States with an aid programme worth £115m. The only communist country making a significant contribution is China, which is to provide aid worth £12m.

One of the smallest donors amounting to £54,000, was the island of Jersey. It now remains to be seen whether Zimbabwe is able to fulfil the confidence which world has placed in it through its massive response to Zimbabwe's request for assistance. As Mr van Agt said: "The materials there and all is now set for building to begin."

Leading article, page 2

What the nations contribute

Summary of aid commitments to Zimbabwe since independence (in thousands of pounds)

	£000
Gross total	899,580
Committed before conference	253,404
Pledged during conference	636,730

Donors	£000
Africa Development Bank	27,613
Australia	10,141
Bank for Arab Economic Development in Africa	21,701
Belgium	5,555
Canada	23,148
China	12,152
Denmark	6,847
Egypt	853
EEC	83,333
Finland	3,588
France	49,604

	£000
Germany	45
Ghana	8.6
Holy See	16.0
Italy	2.1
Japan	22.5
Kuwait Fund	1.3
Iraq	1.1
Luxembourg	1.1
Netherlands	1.1
New Zealand	8.2
Nigeria	7.1
Norway	4.7
Opec Fund	2.2
Saudi Arabia	2.2
Sierra Leone	27.7
Sweden	11.2
Switzerland	12.5
United Kingdom	19.2
United Nations	119.1
United States	203.1
World Bank	205.0
Yugoslavia	1.7
Commonwealth	2.0

to campaign against drug pessimism and surrender, an unemployment.

The Giscardians are organizing for their young supporters a mixed programme of politics and circuses. The rally, and possibly the "Forum 1981" will take place in five huge tents where for the first three hours debates on culture, sport, adventure, solidarity, and participation in local life, chaired by leading personalities in each speciality, will alternate with a varied programme, of which the structures are being kept quiet as surprise.

M Jean-Philippe Lecat, the spokesman of the "citizen candidate" as M Giscard d'Estaing described himself in his television broadcast earlier this month, will take place about the Communist demonstration, emphasizing that it had been extended to all workers, presumably because the party had been unable to set enough support from young people alone, from the Giscard rally would be to young people alone.

The elections which have taken place since 1974 tend to show that young people in France do not vote as a distinct group but tend to follow the lead of their elders. But this time, with unemployment hitting school leavers particularly, M Giscard d'Estaing has a difficult job convincing them that he holds the key.

From Charles Hargrove Paris, March 27

On April 26 and May 10 some six million young people aged between 18 and 25, who were too young to vote in 1974, will go to the polls to help elect a new president. Nearly 700,000 of them are unemployed. As all the opinion polls give the outcome as a very close run thing, all the candidates are making very determined efforts to woo this section of the electorate.

President Giscard d'Estaing is opening the active part of his campaign on Sunday afternoon by addressing a rally of 10,000 young people from all over France at the Porte de Pantin, on the northern fringe of Paris. He will disclose his new plan for beating unemployment then.

At the same time M Georges Marchais, the Communist candidate, is holding a demonstration by several tens of thousands in central Paris.

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist candidate, has as usual, stolen a march on both of them. He invited 700 delegates of youth movements to a dinner-debate last Tuesday, at which he read out his "charter for youth" of which one million copies will be distributed tomorrow to coincide with the performances of M Giscard d'Estaing and M Marchais. "Young people must be offered a policy, and ambitious for the future," he told them. "Before the Communist right to a job for young people."

Only M Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist candidate, has refrained so far from concentrating his attention on youth and showing any interest in the "Forum 1981". The Communist Party newspaper, writes today that 400 buses will bring demonstrators from the suburbs of Paris, and join up with Communist students chosen to be the party candidate last October, the party leadership has called on all the party organizations to mobilize to get out and persuade young people to sign the electoral registers, and

Nato remains calm in face of pact exercises

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

While the Warsaw Pact manoeuvres are continuing beyond their date of expected conclusion closely watched by the Western high command, the military judgment remains remarkably cool about the exercises.

Official sources yesterday said that the manoeuvres were proceeding very much as expected. Although the Warsaw Pact forces are now in a high state of readiness, with lines of communication fully established, there has been no change in the alert status of Western forces.

According to Western sources, the Warsaw Pact troops have been drawn from Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland and the Soviet Union. But no details of the units involved were available yesterday.

Most of the information about the manoeuvres, and public concern about the scale of the exercises, originates from television reports. These films, showing tanks in action, rockets and artillery, and paratroopers dropping near Warsaw, have been supplied by Polish television.

While there is an obvious Soviet motive in showing the strength and capability of the forces engaged in the manoeuvres, as a warning to the Poles, there is no way of checking the authenticity of the material.

The BBC and ITN have had to take the film on trust. Some sequences, which include named officials, obviously come from present events. Other parts may possibly have been added for extra dramatic effect.

Western sources at Nato and Shape, the military high command, refuse to be alarmed, however. The manoeuvres were not notified in advance, as would be required for large-scale exercises under the Helsinki agreement, because fewer than 25,000 troops are taking part, it is stated.

"It is likely that the Russians are giving a rather strong impression of the strength of the forces involved on purpose, to show the Poles what forces they have there," one official source suggested.

"Extensive field training is taking place, in addition to command and staff exercises, but this is quite normal," it added. "The Foreign Office is watching the situation in Poland remains high. Yesterday, Dr Jürgen Rühfus, the West German Ambassador to Britain, called on Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal, at the Foreign Office to deliver a message from Herr Hans Apel, the West German Defence Minister. The message dealt with the current economic position of Poland."

The Foreign Office said last night that developments in Poland were being watched very closely. "As ministers have stated many times, the Poles should be allowed to solve their difficulties without outside interference of any kind," the Foreign Office said.

"Intervention by force in Poland's affairs would have the most serious consequences for East-West relations. It would mean the end of detente," the statement added.

At government level, the effort to help Poland with its financial problems is continuing at all possible levels.

In Brussels today Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, disclosed that it will make a decision on Poland's request for food supplies from the EEC early next week.

"We are giving the problem absolute priority and expect to make a decision in the first three days of next week," he told a press conference. As agriculture ministers are meeting in Brussels at the same time, the procedures for granting the Polish request could be completed by Wednesday.



Warsaw Pact mechanized units cross a pontoon bridge. The photograph, like most information about the manoeuvres, comes from official East European sources.

Four speeches in four hours by the busiest Pole

Warsaw, March 27.—The busiest person in Poland during today's four-hour strike was clearly Mr Lech Walesa.

In those four hours he sped in a column of cars, with security men provided by the Government, to address workers at four big enterprises in the Warsaw area.

His last stop was the huge Hut Warszawa steel mill, known for the militancy of its 16,000 workers.

Preaching prudence, Mr Walesa instructed his audience to stay out of trouble and avoid violence.—UPI.

No state represented here has any special 'rights' but all, including the biggest and strongest of us, do have responsibilities to set an example in respecting the sovereignty of others, and the contributions that all nations, big and small, can make," Mr Max Kampelman, the chief American delegate, told a plenary session.

Before the signing of the Helsinki Final Act, tragic developments in Europe had occurred because of the failure to apply such principles. Indeed, a "doctrine" was created, Mr Kampelman observed, in order to legitimize interference in other countries' internal affairs.

Statements with an ominous and familiar ring had been heard once again that the entire socialist community had certain special defence rights.

But, the chief American delegate went on, "given the

existence of the Helsinki Act, nobody can argue with any shred of justification that such a 'doctrine' can have any moral

After two hours EEC ministers fail to agree on fishing policy

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 27

EEC fisheries ministers, summoned to an emergency session by Mrs Thatcher and other heads of government earlier this week in Brussels, failed to agree on a fishing policy after two hours of discussion.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the ministers said they had failed to agree on a complete solution in such a short space of time.

But Mr Peter Walker and his EEC colleagues claimed that the meeting had been a success in that they had agreed to continue their discussions on fishing policy.

Spring is decreed to end on June 31. The record of misadventure in the six-year-old fisheries dispute is a long one, however, and there must be a real danger that the haggling will continue into Britain's EEC presidency, which begins on July 1.

Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch Agriculture Minister and current chairman of the fisheries meetings, is to decide when to convene the next meeting after consultations with the European Commission and other member states. It is not likely to be held until after the second round of the French presidential election on May 10.

More time is needed to prepare any new proposals properly, and the time needed for this preparation more or less tallies with the period between now and the French elections, Mr Braks commented.

Mr Josef Ertl, the German Agriculture Minister, also said after the meeting that any final decision on a new fisheries policy would have to wait until after the French elections.

The same message, according to informed sources, has also been conveyed privately by the French themselves to both the Irish and the British.

Pressed on this point publicly, Mr Daniel Hoefel, the French Fisheries Minister, did not deny that the French elections were a factor, but insisted that France's view of its rights in British coastal waters contained "nothing of a temporary nature".

It quickly became clear today that no progress was possible on the key issue of access for French trawlers to British inshore waters. This has been clearly identified for some months now as the chief obstacle to agreement.

With no overall agreement on fisheries policy possible, Mr Walker once again made clear that Britain was unable to lift its veto on the fisheries agreement between the EEC and Canada, which has been urgently requested by the West Germans.

The agreement would allow West German deep-sea trawlers to cod-fishing grounds off Labrador and Newfoundland. It would also, however, reduce tariffs on 24,000 tonnes of imported fish from Canada into the Community, and the British say most of this would end up on Britain's already depressed market.

Maintenance of the British veto means that West German fishermen will now lose their winter fishing off Canada. The fishing season in these waters comes to an end around the middle of April, due to drifting icebergs and migration of the fish stocks.

This will leave a legacy of bitterness. Some 2,000 West German deep-sea fishermen, and a further 15,000 jobs in fish processing, are said to depend heavily on access to the Canadian fishing grounds.

Mr Njonjo denies part in Kenyan coup plot

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 27

Two Kenyans were today committed for trial by the High Court at the end of a magistrate's preliminary inquiry into allegations of a plot to overthrow President Daniel arap Moi.

Mr Andrew Muthemba, a businessman, is charged with treason, and Mr Charles Njonjo, Kenya's Minister for Constitutional and Home Affairs, is charged with conspiracy to overthrow the President.

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IRA link to the PLO is discounted by Dublin

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 27

After a secret investigation by the Irish Special Branch and the Irish Embassy in Beirut, allegations by the Israeli Foreign Ministry of continuing links between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Provisional IRA have been dismissed as without foundation.

I understand that the Dublin Government's findings were presented to the Israeli authorities earlier this week in the form of a diplomatic aide-memoire and a personal representation by Mr Sean Ronan, Ireland's non-resident ambassador to Israel.

In Jerusalem today, Mr Ronan told The Times: "Our inquiries in Lebanon and in Ireland go back to 1979 and reveal no evidence of any links between the two groups. We have told the Israelis that, if they have any hard facts to back up their claims, they should let us know and we will pass them on to the police for immediate investigation."

The presentation of the Irish findings comes after an allegation made earlier this month by Israel's Foreign Ministry that there was "overwhelming proof of links between the PLO and other terrorist groups, including the IRA, especially the exchange of intelligence information and training."

The statement was part of an angry official response to reports that the PLO was about to open an information office in Dublin.

The Irish investigation was started after the Israeli Government circulated copies of an article written by Mr Robert Moss in the Daily Telegraph last December. Citing information supposedly provided to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New York by an IRA informer, the article claimed that 44 members of the IRA received training in Palestinian camps during 1979.

Distributed in photocopy form by the Israeli Information Office in London, the article claimed that 32 of the IRA men had been trained.

The Irish diplomatic reply stated: "While a few Irish people have been trained in camps in Lebanon, there is no information available to the Irish authorities to indicate that IRA personnel have been trained in PLO camps in Lebanon or any other countries in recent years."

Apart from wishing to prevent damage to Ireland's security cooperation with Britain, the Irish Government is also believed to be anxious to quash rumours of a continuing IRA-PLO link in an effort to dispel suggestions that Irish troops serving with the United Nations in south Lebanon are sympathetic to the Palestinian cause.

Both accused men are members of the Kikuyu tribe. President Kenyatta, who died in 1978, was a Kikuyu and was succeeded by President Moi, who is a member of the small Kalenjin tribe.

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A young mother waiting for a doctor for her sick baby at a makeshift refugee camp in Suchitote, El Salvador.

Nicaraguan arms report 'fabricated' by Mr Haig

San Francisco, March 27

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, has today said that the "additional" hour would correspond better to the seasonal biological rhythms of the body, improve leisure conditions and increase the time people could spend outdoors.

Although he admitted that the Sandinistas were backing the guerrillas in El Salvador, he said the junta was in no position to give them any assistance because the "Government is preoccupied with rebuilding the country."

Senior Santos said Sandinista officials were most concerned about the Reagan Administration's decision last month to block a sale of wheat to Nicaragua.

"The Americans are using food as a weapon," Senior Santos claimed. —UPI.

San Salvador, March 27—A powerful bomb exploded near a bus stop on the western edge of San Salvador this morning, and witnesses said at least three people waiting for the bus were badly injured. —AP.

plunging the Danish press into crisis at one of the most economically difficult times in its history.

According to a DA spokesman, the lock-out was imposed after the proprietors had rejected wage increase demands from the printers of up to 15 per cent per year.

A printers' union spokesman said that the installation of new technology in return for allowing journalists to use the video terminals.

Holland has 307 video terminals, Finland 162, Denmark 66, and Britain 34. The non-union Nottingham Evening Post has 40 machines and is the only British newspaper where journalists input directly.

The Wolverhampton Express and Star has 14 terminals and is due to be replaced by a new system soon, but it does not have an agreement on direct input.

US examines case for arming Pakistan

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, March 27

A Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman today confirmed that Pakistan and the United States have been discussing certain American aid proposals, including military purchases. But he said reports of an agreement on an aid package, including military supplies, were "misleading, tendentious and mischievous."

The spokesman did not say how long the aid talks have been going on. It was pointed out, however, that Pakistan and Washington have been at various levels. Since the Reagan Administration came into office, there has been strong speculation about Pakistan obtaining United States aid, including military

sales, despite American legislation preventing aid to Pakistan because of suspicion that it was developing nuclear arms.

The spokesman said Pakistan greatly valued its friendship with the United States and the two sides had been trying to reach a mutually acceptable and durable bilateral relationship consistent with Pakistan's adherence to the Islamic conference organization and the non-aligned movement.

Meanwhile, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and Lady Carrington arrived here today on a two-day visit. Lord Carrington had his first formal round of talks with Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, this morning at which they discussed the military and political aspects of the Soviet

Lock-out of printers cripples Danish press

From Christopher Follet
Copenhagen, March 27

Denmark will be without the majority of its 48 daily newspapers tomorrow because of a lock-out of printers by publishers.

Only 15 daily newspapers not organized within the Danish Employers Federation (DA) will continue to appear during the stoppage. These newspapers are mainly provincial and have a combined circulation of 300,000, which represents only 20 per cent of normal newspaper sales in Denmark.

Of the country's national newspapers, only seven will continue to be published. These include Aktuelt, the Social Democratic daily, Borsen, the financial and business newspaper, and the conservative Jyllandske Avis.

The leading Copenhagen dailies, the conservative Berlingske Tidende and the independent Politiken will be missing from the news stands, together with both of Denmark's most popular mass-circulation tabloids, Ekstra Bladet and Blevit.

The lock-out took effect today after the failure of negotiations with printing unions on modern technology agreements and pay increases. The 11,000 organized Danish typographers had already given a strike notice with effect from April 1, after rejecting a settlement proposal from the employers.

Also affected by the lock-out are the majority of Denmark's printing works, 25 weekly magazines, and 250 freely distributed local newspapers.

The estimated loss in newspaper circulation due to the lock-out is put at two million copies daily and 2,400,000 weekly for the magazines.

Woman chains herself to deck of whaling boat

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occupation of Afghanistan. Lord Carrington also expressed British concern and interest in meeting part of the economic burden imposed on Pakistan as a result of the influx of more than 1,500,000 refugees.

On his arrival here, Lord Carrington praised Pakistan's role in providing shelter to Afghan refugees and said that during his visit to the Afghan refugees' camp at Quetta he would assess the assistance that the British Government could provide for the refugees and for development of Baluchistan which borders Afghanistan.

Clockface revolution upsets the Russians

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 27

The British may have been confused by the last-minute decision to postpone the change to Summer Time for a week. But this is nothing compared to the bewilderment, anxiety, and even outright hostility with which the Russians are approaching the first alteration of their clocks known in more than 50 years.

From April 1 the Soviet Union will introduce daylight-saving time, advancing all clocks by one hour. The concept seems to be utterly incomprehensible to most people, who have in their minds vague ideas of "losing" part of their lives just as their grandparents "lost" 13 days in February, 1918, when the Bolsheviks finally abandoned the old calendar and brought Soviet Russia into line with the rest of the world.

Complaints have been flooding in to the press and radio. "I have already a great deal of work in the mornings, preparing my husband's breakfast and getting my children ready for school. If another hour is added to the morning, I shall be very tired by the time I get to work," one woman wrote.

Peasants were equally disapproving. The cows had to be fed at the crack of dawn in any case, and now it was decreed that dawn would crack even earlier.

Patience the newspapers have tried to explain that nobody is going to steal time, lengthen the day or shorten people's lives. The arrangement will last only until October 1, when things will go back to normal, by which time the country will have saved 2,000 million kilowatts of electricity.

As a final inducement, the Ministry of Health announced that the "additional" hour would correspond better to the seasonal biological rhythms of the body, improve leisure conditions and increase the time people could spend outdoors.

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PARLIAMENT, March 27, 1981 MPs dissatisfied with concessions on cost of industrial energy

House of Commons

The case for an extensive nuclear programme was compelling because of the long term need to reduce energy costs and maintain the competitiveness of British industry and the nation's prosperity. Mr Trevor Skeet (Bedford, C) was opening a debate on the need for competitive industrial fuel costs.

He said he wanted to prove three things. First, the concessions given for the energy-intensive industries were inadequate considering that British companies were necessarily competitive in international trade.

Second, in the long-term there was no alternative to a robust nuclear power programme to reduce energy costs and to sustain living standards in the United Kingdom.

Third, part of the economic success of the United Kingdom would depend on the reasonable energy and transport costs for duty on the 20p additional calculated to achieve that end.

The case for an extensive nuclear programme was compelling. Electricity, which produced no smoke, was becoming cheaper and that was likely to become an established fact.

On generating costs alone, a much larger programme would be justified. The current programme of one station per year between 1982 and 1992, costing £9,700m, could advance to between £18,000m and £24,000m if construction was delayed.

The present disposition of CEGB plant was 75 per cent coal-fired, 10 per cent oil and 15 per cent nuclear. The Government should consider that those proportions should be changed to give the best balance of general economy and a more effective competitive system.

The British Gas Corporation over the next two or three years had followed a pricing policy. It had provided no incentives for large users, as steel, for example, was being soaked by heavy tax.

Mr Arthur Palmer (Bristol, North-East, Lab) said that nuclear-generated electricity was cheaper, not simply because of a good fortune in having the Magnox stations constructed a long time ago, but because it was cheaper to replace an old coal-fired plant with a nuclear plant than a modern coal-fired plant.

Mr Peter Reid (South-East Derbyshire, C) said that industry was in need of immediate help and that the Government was adjusting the subsidies and taxes. They would have to do what Britain's competitors were doing—make their own electricity.

Mr Norman Lamont, Under Secretary of State for Energy (Kingston-upon-Thames, C) said the price of oil was now about 20 times more than it was in 1973. These enormous price hikes were not a temporary phenomenon; they were likely to continue.

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for Energy (Mr David Howell) would guarantee that the price of oil was higher than anywhere else in Europe.

Mr Edward Garrett (Walsley, Lab) said a national fuel policy did not mean a vast bureaucratic machine. Somewhere in some Government department there should be someone advising the minister on the need to coordinate policy on energy resources available in the country. Until there was a united approach to energy, the chaos in the United Kingdom energy policy would continue.

Mr Egan (Enfield, North, C) said every call for subsidised energy prices meant a decrease in Government revenue and an increase in Government expenditure. A fall in interest rates would be far further away.

He was a tremendous supporter of the British coal industry but it added him to see the good will as existing on Conservative benches being driven away by the National Union of Mineworkers. The whole viability of the coal industry was being undermined by the Government's policy of subsidising the industry.

Mr Edward Rowland, an Opposition spokesman on energy (Merthyr Tydfil, Lab) said that since the current problems of industrial energy costs were raised energy prices had been 150m less a quarter of what the Government got from the gas levy.

Heavy industry users would not benefit from freezing of gas prices in their contracts. The 1p a therm escalation written into some contracts should be withdrawn.

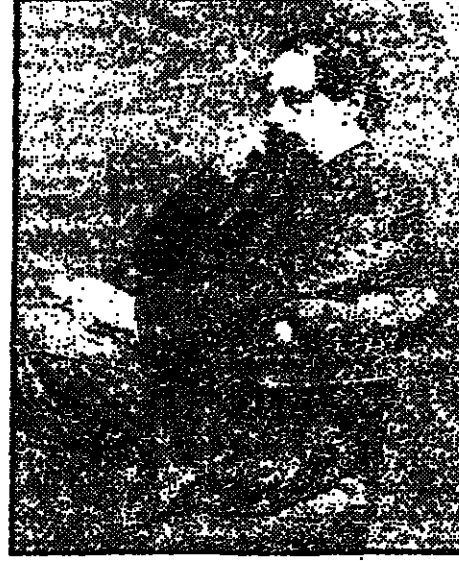
Mr Jocelyn Cadbury (Birmingham, C) said that there was concern about energy prices, among some firms amounting almost to a boycott. The Government's policy of subsidising the industry was undermining the viability of the industry.

Mr Peter Reid (South-East Derbyshire, C) said that industry was in need of immediate help and that the Government was adjusting the subsidies and taxes. They would have to do what Britain's competitors were doing—make their own electricity.

All the great novels of Charles Dickens were first published in parts, usually month by month, episode by exciting episode. But where Dickens appealed to an educated readership, a number of less scrupulous publishers shamelessly pirated his work for the less sophisticated reader. Paul Hoggart tells of the men who made their fortune by copying the works of Dickens.



Even the illustrations were pillaged and vulgarized. Above: three courtroom scenes as drawn for Reynolds (left) from Pickwick Papers, for Lloyd (right) from The Penny Pickwick, and the original (centre) for Pickwick Papers by Dickens. Below (left to right): George Reynolds, Charles Dickens and Edward Lloyd.



THE PENNY PICKWICK

EDITED BY "BOS."



Mr. Tupnall was going to sit down accordingly, but the eminent senior counsel for the plaintiff was not going to let such a golden opportunity slip of doing justice to his client, he therefore arose hastily, and telling Mr. Tupnall to stop a minute where he was, he desired the judge to ask him what those two or three particular occasions were on which he could speak of the defendant's being found in a suspicious manner with females! Mr. Justice Snipe put the question accordingly, and insisted upon a reply, and consequently Mr. Tupnall at length admitted that he had once fallen into a water-butt, in attempting to peep into the apartment of Widow Dupps; that he had been caught in the bed chamber, in *deshabille*, with his next door neighbour's daughter, Miss Gubbins; that he had been belaboured in the garden of Miss Tiffindale's Academy for young ladies, at a late hour of the night, having climbed the garden wall, with a design, as it was reported, to elope with one of the boarders; that

Courtesy of the Dickens House Museum

The pirates of Charles Dickens by Paul Hoggart

Assistant: I think you'll find Charles Dickens wrote *David Copperfield*, sir.
Customer: No, no, Dickens wrote *David Copperfield* with two Ps. This is *David Copperfield* with one P by Edmund Wells.
Assistant: Well in that case we don't have it.
Customer: How about *Grate Expectations*?
Assistant: Yes, well we have that.
Customer: That's *G-R-A-T-E Expectations*, also by Edmund Wells.
Assistant: In that case we don't have it. We don't have anything by Edmund Wells, actually. He's not very popular.
Customer: Not *Knickertoss Nickleby*? That's *K-N-I-C-K-E-R-L-E-S-S*.
Assistant: No, that's *K-N-I-C-K-E-R-L-E-S-S*.
Customer: *Christmas Carol* with a K?
Assistant: Definitely not!

When John Cleese and Graham Chapman wrote their book *The Court of London*, did they realize, I wonder, how closely they had approached reality — the reality of 1838 at least? Between April and June that year avid readers of the young "Bos" were eagerly buying the monthly instalments of both *Oliver Twist* and *Nickelberry*. Other readers, however, were snapping up weekly penny numbers of *The Sketch-Book* by "Bos". *The Penny Pickwick*, *Pickwick in America*, *Oliver Twist* and *Nickelberry*, all by "Bos". Others were enjoying the closing instalments of *G. W. M. Reynolds's* first best-seller, *Pickwick Abroad*. Plagiarisms and piracies of various kinds had been a feature of English publishing for some time. *Tristram Shandy* and *Pierre* had suffered particularly badly — and reflected the extreme weakness of copyright law at that time. Dickens's early work inspired a minor flood, which reached its height in the late spring of 1838. As well as "Bos" and G. W. M. Reynolds there was "Foz", who produced a rival *Oliver Twist*: *The Wonderful Discovery Club*, yet another *Pickwick* imitation, and a series in a scurrilous magazine called *The Town*, entitled "Master Humphrey's Turnip" ("turnip" was slang for pocket-watch). Reynolds followed through with serials entitled "Pickwick Married" and "Noctes Pickwickianae" and another book, *Master Timothy's Bookcase*. "Bos" went on to contribute *Master Humphrey's Clock* and certain later works variously remembered as *Barnaby Rudge* or *Fudge* and *Martin Puzellewhit*, *Phuzlewhit*, or *Guzlewhit*. There were innumerable "jest books", "songsters" and sets of pictures using Dickens's characters and many unauthorized dramatizations of his stories, some of which went into performance before the novel itself was finished. It is largely to the intricate literary archaeology of Louis James that we owe our knowledge of these extraordinary publications.

The young Thackeray happened to buy a copy of *Oliver Twist* by "Bos" and was struck by the denunciation of piratical imitations of this work on the wrapper, by the publisher, Edward Lloyd. James Pattie, publisher of *Oliver Twist* by "Bos", his back on the wrapper of his own serial. This work appeared two days previously to Lloyd's, who if he was any robber in the case, has been guilty of it, as to the title of this publication, though we fully acquit him of any theft to the style or quality of our matter. Dickens's name is, curiously, omitted from the discussion. Dickens made sporadic attempts to fight the plagiarists, but it was heavy going. In 1838 his publishers, Chapman and Hall, lost a court case against Edward Lloyd because the judge felt that no sane employer could possibly confuse Lloyd's *Nickelberry* with the original. Dickens did, eventually, win a case against a publisher who pirated *A Christmas Carol*, but it was a difficult, unpleasant and unrewarding battle. He became increasingly concerned with piracies, illegal verbatim reprints of his novels, especially in the United States, and remained a doughty campaigner for copyright law. *Nickelberry* was the most outrageous presumption was proudly to produce the first number of *Nickelberry* on the same day that the first part of *Nickelberry* went on sale. Fast footwork by "Bos" brought the two stories into line thereafter. In desperation Dickens took to the advertising columns of the popular press, publishing a "signed" proclamation against piracies in the *Illustrated Penny Gazette* of *Variety*. Lloyd, unruffled, published his own warning against piracies of *Nickelberry* later in the same month, also in *Cleave's*. These early imitations of Dickens's work were rarely straight piracies. Some, like *Pickwick Abroad* and *Pickwick in America*, were "continuations" of his novels. Others rewrote the stories, sometimes radically, introducing large amounts of new material. *The Penny Pickwick* and *Oliver Twist* by "Bos" are both considerably longer than the originals. I prefer the word "travesty" to "plagiarism" in describing them. Lloyd's publications in particular would be hopelessly inept as attempts to reproduce Dickens's writing, but more often than not they appear to be attempting a curious kind of parody. In later life Lloyd himself described them as parodies. When they are not travesties by accident they are travesties by design.

ated for any kind of commercial product you care to think of. In the words of a popular song of the period: Now as you walk about the streets, sirs, You Pickwick's face are sure to meet, sirs. You call a cab, and this, sirs, Upon the sides the name of Bos is. You're for the play a precious fellow, And so you go and see Sam Weller. These things have come to such an odd pass, My wife has christened the baby Snodgrass. The *Pickwick* Age runs to another four similar verses. The name had, in fact, come to stand for an ethos of good-humoured fun. There are two major elements in the book's extraordinary and continuing popularity. It was, first, to present a panorama of English life and foibles. This is true if one's vision of England is limited to the southern middle classes, those who service their needs and the inmates of a debtors' prison. Little else appears. The book's undoubted panoramic feel is derived from the richness with which it represents and reworks the culture of southern middle and lower middle-class life. Several scholars have shown in great detail how Dickens reused and enlivened familiar ideas, figures and conventions from the fiction, drama and journalism of his youth. Dickens mockingly celebrated that culture: it was an original book with very little new in it. A writer in *The Times* singled out *The Pickwick Papers* as his masterpiece, roughly reversing modern critical opinion and indicating a deeper strand in the book's popularity. In 1836 all classes of British society were still coming to terms with the massive and rapid reshaping of their world. The growth of the cities was accompanied by the growth of middle-class power and self-assertiveness, the rise of the £10 householder. The relationship between Mr. Pickwick and Sam Weller, always recognized as the core of the novel, presented a sublime model of the relationship between the middle-class City gentleman and the "lower orders". A kind of "social contract" is offered and gladly accepted by both sides. Mr. Pickwick, comical and eccentric perhaps, provides cash and, through his innocence, spiritual leadership. Sam, for all his worldly wit and sagacity, has no independence which is predicated upon not having responsibility or power; ultimately he is childlike. The most intriguing feature of the plagiarisms is the way that they tamper with this relationship. Lloyd's publications were aimed at an entirely different market. It is true that Dickens had working-class readers, but the "universality" even of the *Pickwick* readership, has traditionally been overstressed. The vast majority of the 40,000 *Pickwick* readers were middle class and numerous autobiographers, to write later in the century, testify to the intense affection that was felt for the novel, to its profound and enduring place in the middle-class consciousness. Edward Lloyd's *The Penny Pickwick* claimed 50,000 weekly sales. The preface to the bound edition specifies that the story was written for "the poor man" and it is safe to assume that the readership was almost exclusively working-class. Thackeray had to make a special, and slightly risky, trip to a working-class area to pick up his penny fiction. Lloyd was foremost among the publishers who were addressing the rapidly expanding population of early Victorian working-class readers. Recent research has shown that literacy rates were considerably higher in the 1830s than was supposed 20 years ago. It is possible that as many as 50 per cent of the working-class population could read after a fashion and the habit of group purchase and reading aloud meant that periodicals and fiction were made available to even larger numbers. Clearly, far more working-class readers, or listeners, read or heard *The Penny Pickwick* than *The Pickwick Papers*. There must have been some overlap, however, as Mr. Doudney, a Lombard Street tailor, advertised his cheap clothes in advertising supplements, enclosed with both publications. The careers of Edward Lloyd and George Reynolds are as remarkable as that of Dickens, if in different ways. Educated in a Mechanics' Institute, Lloyd rose to become one of England's first press barons. *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* became the highest selling paper in the country in the 1860s and in 1896 it became the first British newspaper to sell a million copies. He owed his success, by all accounts, to his vigorous marketing techniques and his disregard for conventional business practice. He paid his printers with coins stamped with the paper's name, until he was stopped by an Act of Parliament. He also kept his paper as cheap as possible, and when it started *Lloyd's Weekly London Newspaper* in 1842 at 2d a copy it was the first paper to make hard news legally available to work-

ing-class readers at a price they could afford. He financed his nascent press empire with the profits from the lucrative fiction business. The staple product was domestic romance, usually heavy with melodrama and gore. "The eyes," he told the illustrators of some lurid scene, "must be larger, and there must be more blood — much more blood!" He remained an inveterate copier, if not plagiarist, of other people's successes. Writers were paid ten shillings per weekly instalment and serials were produced without regard to sentiment or artistic integrity. If they did not sell they were abruptly withdrawn. If they sold well nothing was allowed to interrupt them. When one writer gave birth to a baby before delivering her copy, he is said to have handed the story over to a man who knew nothing about it. Several unrelated episodes followed until her return. The public, apparently, didn't notice. When his success was firmly established he abandoned book publishing and, according to one account, rejected the author of the "Bos" plagiarisms. He made a firm bid for respectability, appointing Douglas Jerrold, a popular figure in literary circles, to the editorship of *Lloyd's* and eventually making his way to membership of the Reform Club. He is said to have sent teams of men out to buy up old copies of his fiction and destroy it. As the publisher of the most successful range of early popular fiction, and the proprietor of the first truly mass-circulation newspaper, Lloyd was clearly a major shaping influence on the growth of urban commercial culture.

George Reynolds was not, like Lloyd, a self-made man. His father was a naval officer and he also was intended for a military career. He was withdrawn from Sandhurst, however, and travelled widely on the Continent. He spent much of this period in Paris where he died in 1879 he was described as "the most popular writer of our time" and the few statistics available bear this out.

In the 1840s he espoused the Chartist cause and he spoke at the famous rally on Kennington Common. He was chiefly famous for his novels and his newspaper. The novels were regarded with alarm and disgust by upright middle-class readers. The mammoth *Mysteries of London* and *Mysteries of the Court of London* contrast the miseries and degradations of the poor with semi-pornographic descriptions of the antics of a debauched aristocracy. Radical sentiment and salacious sensationalism are shamelessly mixed. He was a prolific writer and was himself prolifically plagiarized and pirated, especially in the United States. Reynolds founded and edited *Reynolds's Newspaper* which ran second to *Lloyd's* for much of the century and survived until the 1960s. Both papers were regarded as radical, and certainly were so when, outside the popular press today, London costermongers, interviewed for Mayhew, said Reynolds was "a trump" (a compliment). He never sought or achieved respectability as Lloyd did but remained a wealthy pariah to the literary establishment. "Bos" himself remains the most elusive figure in this story. He is thought to have been Thomas Peckett Prest. Prest used to write songs and sketches to be performed by entertainers in taverns. This was an early form of music hall and Prest went on to write for famous music hall stars. He wrote several of Lloyd's best-sellers in the 1830s and 1840s and *The String of Pearls*, the first fictional account of Sweetie Todd. Unlike Lloyd and Reynolds, he died in poverty. There is no conclusive proof that he wrote the "Bos" stories but his pedigree is exactly right. *The Penny Pickwick* owes a lot more, in many respects, to the songsters and jest books, to the light entertainment of the pub, than it does to Dickens. There are crucial differences in the nature of the language. *The Penny Pickwick* is, by modern standards, amazingly verbose. At times it is almost unreadably so. 1830s readers not only had a greater tolerance of polysyllabic circumlocution than we do today, they seem to have enjoyed it. The elegance, often rather laboured, of Dickens's sentence construction in *The Pickwick Papers* is, like much writing of the period, consciously or unconsciously modelled on Latin. To the uneducated the Latin syntax of much classically inspired prose must have seemed wonderful and strange. The style of *The Penny Pickwick* presents a sort of poor man's travesty, deliberately undermined by a constant insistence on the rough, the mundane and the uncomfortable. Comparison of the two versions of the opening passage gives some idea of this difference. Dickens began: The first ray of light which illumined the gloom, and converts into a dazzling brilliancy that obscurity in which the earlier history of

the public career of the immortal *Pickwick* would appear to be involved, is derived from the perusal of the following entry in the Transactions of the Pickwick Club, which the editor of these papers feels the highest pleasure in laying before his readers, as a proof of the careful, attention, indefatigable assiduity, and nice discrimination, with which his search among the multifarious documents confided to him has been conducted. Here is the "Bos" version: Previous to the year 1817, the science of this sublimity world was of that narrow and circumscribed description, that it might be looked upon merely as a small rushlight, glimmering in a dark lantern, shedding but a flickering beam upon the illiterate inhabitants. It rested with one man to dissipate that dullness [sic] — to open the channels of human knowledge — to expand the rushlight of intellectual research into the full blaze and overwhelming brilliancy of the gas-light of wisdom. The book is, in fact, underwritten by an aggressive populism. The relationship between Mr. Pickwick and Sam is deprived of its sentimental force. Where Samuel Pickwick was, if bumbling and naive, honest, decent and generous, Christopher Pickwick is simply a stupid old fool. "Bos" loses the opportunity to humiliate him; he spends much of the book pulling himself out of dirty water. Samuel Veller is a dry, disaffected character compared to his original. He is in tune with a range of characters in the book who preserve a mocking and enigmatic distance from the pointlessness of their middle-class "betters".

What we are shown is Dickens's "social contract" seen from the bottom up. Here there is no sentimental endorsement of the status quo, but it is maintained, nevertheless, for the values and aspirations of the middle classes are seen as worthless, if not human. The working classes, humiliated by the polysyllabic circumlocution of the middle class, seem to have enjoyed it. The elegance, often rather laboured, of Dickens's sentence construction in *The Pickwick Papers* is, like much writing of the period, consciously or unconsciously modelled on Latin. To the uneducated the Latin syntax of much classically inspired prose must have seemed wonderful and strange. The style of *The Penny Pickwick* presents a sort of poor man's travesty, deliberately undermined by a constant insistence on the rough, the mundane and the uncomfortable. Comparison of the two versions of the opening passage gives some idea of this difference. Dickens began: The first ray of light which illumined the gloom, and converts into a dazzling brilliancy that obscurity in which the earlier history of

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© Extract from book seller sketch copyright John Cleese and Graham Chapman.

Records of the month

Intensely played
centenary tribute

Mussorgsky: Orchestral and Choral Works. (LSO and Chorus/Abbado. RCA RL31540; RK31540.)
Bruckner: Symphony No. 0. Chicago Baroque. DG 3531 318.
Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 4. Vienna PO Carlos Kleiber. DG 2332 003; 3302 003.
Vaughan Williams: Symphony No. 4/The Lark Ascending. RPO/Griffiths Berglund. HMV ASD3904; TC-ASD 3904.
Debussy: Appalachia/Bridge Fair. Halle/Ambronian Singers/Alan Jenkins Barbirolli. HMV Green-sleeve ESD 7099.
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5. Arrau. Concertgebouw. Haitink. Philips Sequenza 6527 033; 7311 033.
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 3. Clara Haskil/Lamoureux Orchestra Markvitch. Philips Sequenza 6527 090; 7311 090.
Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 2. Gilels/Berlin PO/Jochum. DG Accolade 2542 151.
Stravinsky: Histoire du Soldat. Gielgud/Courmayeur/Blondy/Boston Symphony Chamber Players. DG Privilege 2333 456.

"Death has hurried here rich treasure," so wrote Grillparzer, somewhat patronizingly, about Schubert. Does the epitaph better fit Mussorgsky, who died 100 years ago today, still only 42, with only a small fraction of his dreams fully realized? Or would lack of academic grounding and the necessity of earning a living as a servant of the state, on top of acute dysmaniacs, have increasingly destroyed even hope?

Alongside comparatively familiar orchestral treasures, such as the *Khovenshchina* Prelude and Introduction to Act IV and the vividly dramatic original version of *St John's Night on the Bare Mountain*, RCA's centenary tribute bravely includes four previously unrecorded choral items salvaged from this and that, with Rimsky-Korsakov's *Chorus* (helped incidentally by his hand in all but three of the record's nine offerings). The chorus

from *Oedipus in Athens*, conceived as a teenager, is no more individual than the youthful orchestral Scherzo in B flat included. But the seductive Chorus of Priestesses from the unrealized opera *Salammbô*, and thereafter *Joshua* (a cantata reworked from material in that opera, together with *The Destruction of Sennacherib* (the first of his only two independent choral pieces and heard with its mystical central vision of the Angel of Death, strikingly explain his feeling of musical rebirth, when still only 20, on renouncing cosmopolitanism to turn to Mother Russia. All the performances have a dedicated intensity: the disc is an obligatory centenary purchase.

Bruckner had already exceeded Mussorgsky's lifespan when he allowed the world to hear the first of his nine big symphonies. Even the rarely heard Symphony No. 0, deemed too immature for inclusion in the official canon, was not begun until he was 40. Because some of it struggles through symphonies, even the rarely heard Symphony No. 0, deemed too immature for inclusion in the official canon, was not begun until he was 40. Because some of it struggles through symphonies, even the rarely heard Symphony No. 0, deemed too immature for inclusion in the official canon, was not begun until he was 40.

Carlos Kleiber's new recording of Brahms's fourth symphony could have been seen as a challenge to the old contention that Brahms was not a composer. But it is not. It is a work of music, with a maximum of contrasts of dynamics and colour. Even if gear changes are once or twice insufficiently concealed, the immediacy of the cantabile reproduction of a high-powered orchestra, ensures that even fainter-hearted Brucknerians like myself can never do off.



passionately marking, in terms of noble but unyielding stone. The Viennese strings emerge sunsoaked, the woodwind and mellow, in their digital clarity.

Better known from English batons, including the composer's own Vaughan Williams's fourth symphony from the Finnish Paavo Berglund strikes home as no less menacing a warning today than when first heard in 1935, its grinding dissonance and unremitting drive offset only by uneasy, haunted repose. The *Lark Ascending* is the ideal, assuaging fill-up. The national cause is equally helped by the welcome reissue of Delius's *Appalachia* from Sir John Barbirolli, who draws the maximum nostalgia from the orchestra and Ambronian Singers alike. Possibly he lingers a

little self-indulgently over parts of *Brigitte Fair*, as if still in vast Mississippi swamps, but this too is super-sensitively phrased and shaded.

Of several mid-price concertos, no one should overlook Arrau's "Emperor" recorded some seventeen years ago at his majestic peak, its opening movement as broad and strong as its Adagio is rapt with no obstructive hesitations to intensify point-making, as sometimes in later years. Clara Haskil's still older (1950) Beethoven No. 3 in C minor with Markvitch, again of daylight truth in tonal reproduction, is still more of a collector's piece even if its two outer movements remind us more of Beethoven's debt to the eighteenth century (Mozart) than of the revolu-

tionary Prometheus to come. Brahms's second piano concerto from Gilels and Jochum, though much more recent (1972), has already become a legendary classic, its expansive warmth and might transcending any small, controversial liberties such as the leisurely, introductory approach to the first movement's opening motif.

Last but not least on the reissue shelf, Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* starring John Gielgud as narrator with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players in its uppermost refinement and gleaming clarity a quite exceptional bargain unless you hanker for the rougher, rarer realities often encountered in stage performance.

Joan Chissell

Textbook of modern song

The Hugo Wolf Society, 1931-1938. Gerhardt, Janssen, Hirsch, Tripp, Schorr, McCornack, Kippis, Roth, here: Glinster, Roswaenge, Fuchs, Erb, Lemnitz, Weber, LSO, various pianists. EMI RLS 739 17 discs.

HMV's Hugo Wolf Society was launched just 50 years ago. It was the brainchild of Ernest Newman, music critic of *The Sunday Times*. Wolf's first biographer in Britain and a devotee impatient of the composer's inadequate representation in song recitals, Newman had a ready acolyte in Walter Legge, a keen student of the Lied, an employee in the education department of HMV records and an admiring acquaintance of Newman.

In 1929 Legge set up the Lied Club in London to test public response and extend the repertoire. A year later he persuaded HMV to market an album of records, available by subscription as well as in a single edition, devoted to songs by Wolf. Using the influential name of Newman, HMV persuaded Elena Gerhardt, the acknowledged goddess of German song, to record the songs against a rock much less than her minimum fee. Subscribers were none too easily procured, the volume was warmly received and five further issues followed before the outbreak of war in 1939.

Subscribers were told at the time that the Wolf Society records would not otherwise be made publicly available; since then, despite public appeal, they have remained among the most valuable properties in the HMV vaults. The first volume, never transferred to LP, excited a brief resurrection in 1964. After 50 years, the pledge is evidently redeemed. All six volumes at last reach micro-cassette, together with Newman's copious annotations and Winifred Radford's English translations. Furthermore, enough extra material, recorded at the time, has been discovered to make up a seventh volume.

The transfers have been scrupulously made: the recorded sound is as crisp as today, even that of the first volumes (some reservations

are noted below). We cannot help noticing now that the manner of singing Wolf has altered a good deal in those 50 years; likewise piano accompaniment has become more forthright and poetical (Gerald Moore's book-titled *An I too Lied?* was not a mere joke). The growth of appreciation for Wolf's songs since 1945 was again master-minded by Legge, still working for EMI, soon afterwards promoting Lied recitals for his Philharmonia Concerts Society.

Gerhardt's volume, the first record in the new set, demonstrates the change most dramatically. Her voice was a heavy mezzo by character, though she could lighten it for girlish effect, her manner far more the grande dame than Schwarzkopf, her alone Elly Ameling, ever suggests in performance. In "Gstanz Weylas" she is superb, poignant in the Spanish sacred dialogue of Christ and a believer, "Herr, was trübt der Boden hier?" But, in "Bogengang" the singer is experienced as an eavesdropper; a performance today would postulate one of the great young voices as the counterpart. Exquisite as is Gerhardt's manipulation of the brief Italian vignettes, one cannot readily accept her as a Tuscan peasant girl. "Das verlassene Mädchen" is another matter, she scorns up to higher notes, and she is no teenage skivvy, but her plight knocks at the heart.

Having got the Wolf Society off the ground, Gerhardt made no further recordings. The finest of them all was Gerhardt Hirsch (now 80, still marvelously active as a teacher) who sets words on a vocal line as vividly as any modern singer, but without nudging for attention. Hirsch's "Der Rattenfänger" and "Epiphania" are virtuoso character-studies. Among the other singers in the later volumes, Friedrich Schorr excels in "Prometheus" with orchestral accompaniment, though the recorded sound is rather distant. Alexander Kipnis contributes a superb "Grenzen der Menschheit", heavily accented but exemplary in legato and nuance.

Herbert Janssen had a marvellous tone and sang like a matinee idol, but nowhere near the tragedy of

Goethe's harp-player, Alexander Triantafyllidis was clearly well schooled, but did little with words or characterization, and cultivated a little-girl soprano which soon outstays its welcome. John McCormack's rendering of "Gedeynt" used to be greatly admired, but sounds to me painfully stiff and unconvincing.

Elizabeth Reiberg, a great operatic soprano, was even less successful than Gerhardt in the Italian songs, words and characterization rather vague. There is a flawed but exciting account of "Der Feuerreiter" by Helge Roswaenge, and Gerald Moore—the standard of piano-playing suddenly jumps into vividness. Ria Glinster, not an opera-singer as most of these were, comes close to an admirable soprano style for Wolf. Karl Erb, evidently past his best, could still sing "Ach im Maien" as expertly and movingly as could be imagined. Erb hit top form in what now appears as Volume Seven, with a brilliant "Witz", "Auftrag" and "Unfall" and vivid, rapt rhythm in "Der Scholier". Here too is the best of Tina Lemnitz, and Maria Fuchs strongly dramatic, terror and passion united, in "Geldelieber" for my money the greatest love song in the world. Ludwig Weber, not a famous recitalist, contributes a spectacular "Geister vom Mummelsee", and a really theatrical "Ganzes Sanges". It cannot be coincidence that Gerald Moore is the pianist in these last performances, and that they sound much more like our sort of Wolf than do the early volumes. Even Janssen comes out of his Adonis shell and becomes involved in what he sings. There was not to be such a large gap before the postwar Wolf cult began again.

Now it is no cult, but a fact of musical life, for which Gerald Moore is as much to be thanked (busy in retirement, I hope) as the still influential shade of Legge. The recorded Wolf repertoire, less rich now than a few years ago, has received a sizable and revealing injection with this box, at once the prehistory of modern Lied-singing and its best textbook.

William Mann

Dexterity which defies belief

Bartok: String Quartets Nos 1-5. Tokyo Quartet. DG 2740 235 (3 discs).
Schubert: String Quartet in D minor ("Death and the Maiden")/Quartet Movement in C minor. Quartetto Italiano. Philips 9500 751.

Schubert: String Quartet in G major, D 887, Alban Berg Quartet. EMI ASD 3882.
Bridge: String Quartet No 1/Moeran: String Quartet in A minor. Philips SHE 553.
Mendelssohn: Octet/String Symphonies Nos 10 and 12. Musica. Philips 6527 076; 7311 076.

Rossini: Sonate a quattro/Un mot a Paganini/Duetto/Una farra. Accardo/Gazeau/Moeran/Petracchi, Canino. Philips 3769 024, (2 discs).
Beethoven: Trio for piano, flute and bassoon/Horn Sonata. Barenboim/Dobson/Senneker/Bloom. DG 2531 382.
Debussy: Concertations/Liebesräume/Sonetti del Petrarca. Barenboim. DG 2531 318; 3301 318.

Even if this were not the week of the Bartok centenary, the Tokyo Quartet's new cycle of its quartets would be my recording of the month. It is not that these works have not been adequately recorded before, for indeed they have, several times. But they belong among that elite group of twentieth-century masterpieces which invite and gain from a variety of different approaches.

The special virtues of the Tokyo Quartet's performances include their ability, so useful in Bartok, to make sounds that are harsh but not ugly, and also their extraordinary precision of timing and ensemble; their dexterity in the first scherzo of the fourth quartet, for instance, defies belief. On the whole, though, their speeds are a good deal slower than Bartok expected, and this contributes to a certain deliberateness in the playing that Brahms senses here of music growing as naturally as a flower, but rather the feeling of an art busy and crowded with intelligence.

It is no surprise, therefore, that the Tokyo Quartet should miss some of Bartok's melodic grace and seem to mistrust him when he is being most simple. They have much more fun with the heavy ironies of the fifth and sixth quartets, which benefit too from the way they switch colour so easily. Nevertheless, I was greatly impressed also by their version of the second quartet, a work which I would sometimes account the pinnacle of the set because it is so difficult to explain, though so too is Bartok's achievement in creating six works so utterly different from each other.

This exceptional month for quartets brings also fascinating but contrasting performances of two late Schubert works, "Death and the Maiden" played by the Quartetto Italiano and the G major quartet by the Alban Berg Quartet. The former is warm, full and rich, with a superb freedom and generosity in the melodic lines that sometimes sounds not song-like but operatic. This does not mean, however, that the device of the finale is relaxed, nor that the players cannot give, as postscript, a tense performance of the C minor quartet movement.

The view of the German team is more controlled and longer-term, and they bring to the G major quartet a majesty of unfolding and splendour of sound that look forward to Bruckner. The drama of texture and

tonality in the first movement is very powerful, and can well do without the repeat of the already lengthy exposition. Nor is there any sense of strain in the playing, but the little sense of music growing as naturally as a flower, but rather the feeling of an art busy and crowded with intelligence.

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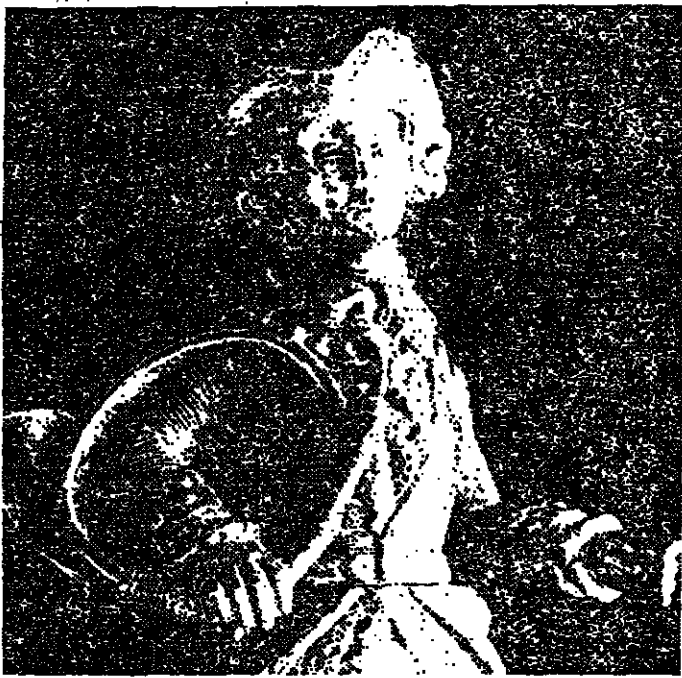
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A far from gruff hornplayer for Beethoven?

certainly need to be heard in their original form, as recorded here, rather than in remastered versions for string orchestra. Salvatore Accardo is in his purest, most sparkling form on the top line, with irrepressible support from the bassist Franco Petracchi, and this rare feast of musical wit is completed by three works from the composer's later years.

Less remarkable than the teenage compositions of Mendelssohn or Rossini, Beethoven's Trio for piano, flute and bassoon, written when he was 15, is still entirely amiable, though the consistent doubling of keyboard and wind does become tiring. The Horn Sonata here has different problems, but it is less than a century ago.

of course the whole point of the issue is Daniel Barenboim's wonderfully fluent piano playing, never merely an accompaniment.

The List recital is also unusual repertoire for Barenboim but well worth his while investigating, especially when he chooses three sets of works that are generally slow, fluid and contemplative. He brings to them a thoughtfulness to make every cascade or ornament a meaningful event: the image that comes to mind as he plays is not of the flashy virtuoso, but of the serious musician exploring the keyboard only for himself. Performed like this List seems hardly less quietly intense than the fellow countryman born a century ago.

Paul Griffiths

Radio

Good in parts; first and second time around

terials and programmes in parts have a tendency to escape critical net—a small shrinking net, I sometimes think, with which my colleagues and I jab about at random in the ocean of radio. For such programmes here is always next week or the week after, and so it goes on until, still unnoticed, the final programme comes and goes and he same process of procrastination can then be applied to its successor—or even, if I work it, to the repeat.

I am sure that *Folktales* Radio 4, Fridays, now two-thirds of the way through its second hearing, ought not to complete it without mention.

Written by Dave Arthur, presented by Toni Arthur, each part is an anthology of material in different aspects of the supernatural: fairies, witches, ghosts. What gives the programmes their appeal is the number of stories woven into them; most of these appear to have been told impromptu into the microphone and some of the

tellers fair raise the goose-pimples. Questions of whether there is one grain of fact in any of them tend to get overlooked, although in many one recognizes certain principles that underlie less romantic and colourful traditions: do not steal from the fairies or you will be punished for it, goes one admonition, echoing another which says that if you plunder mystical teachings for your own ends, you will gain nothing and may even lose. This series is produced by Daniel Snowman whose name at the end of any list of credits has always been a pointer to good programme content.

Another excellent small series ends today and again this is its second time round. Produced by Shirley du Boulay, taken from *Thicker than Water* is an examination of the formative power of blood relationships; it is conducted by Dr Anthony Clare, whose mild, persuasive Irish accent is in itself an inducement to listen. But the chief attraction is the quality of the contribu-

tors whose powers under sympathetic questioning to describe the influence of a father, a mother, or (as you can hear this afternoon) of a brother or sister, are very considerable. Of course when one of them is Thomas Hinde that is hardly to be wondered at. A series on a subject such as this must be of potential interest to absolutely everybody and the conduct of it ensures that many listeners will stop to examine how far their own blood relationships have made them what they are and shaped their own perceptions of the world.

The contrast between this and Capital Radio's new popular psychology series, *Teach Yourself You*, is to put it charitably, sharp. John Nicholson of Bedford College presents, Maggie Norden produces and on the two Monday evenings so far they have given us a programme on the interpersonal relationships of office life, followed by another on friends and friendship. They continue until May 4th with such topics as shyness, and happiness. The intention of the series is clear enough and indeed laudable; take aspects of behaviour with

which most of us are so familiar that we don't even think of them as odd, off-putting psychology and let's take a closer look. At the same time somebody has thought: if we do not present this in the style to which our listeners are accustomed, nobody is going to listen. Thus the two programmes to date have been liberally sprinkled with the utterances of the famous (e.g. Morecambe and Wise on friendship), inserted as if for that reason they were going to be of more consequence than those of Joe Bloggs: in general, they are nothing of the sort and sometimes downright vacuous. Worse than that, both productions have been put together in something of a haphazard way, would-you-believe-it style which makes their material sound altogether too exactly like what the listeners are accustomed to, i.e. a collection of the disconnected snippets of information purveyed by disc-jockeys. The method only helps to obscure whatever these programmes might have to offer to their listeners to help them formulate some general ideas about themselves and Mr Nicholson's script does little to correct

this. In short, content, such as it is, has been sacrificed to a smart, easy-on-the-ear, container—with pretty horrible results. A pity, and particularly so because the programme has to behave like this: when Jane Walsley is conducting one of her investigations, for example, the listeners are treated to more respect.

With 23 parts still to come, there is obviously every opportunity to defer mention of *The Lord of the Rings* and indeed I think that beyond these few words I had better do so because after three episodes it is still very difficult to assess how things are going to shape up. The book itself is a slow starter, having to make allowances for all who have not read *The Hobbit* before the action can get under way. Radio shares that problem, but I am not sure it has been reduced by a decision to broadcast in half-hour episodes. Three weeks and one and a half hours in, I have the impression that things are only just getting going. With each episode at an hour, involvement might already have been high with less strain on the memory and concentration.

David Wade

Telemann's versatility revealed

Telemann: Der getreue Music-Meister. Soloists, Würzburg Bach Choir/Ulrichs. Archiv 2723 073 (five discs).
Telemann: Tafelmusik. Schola Cantorum Basiliensis/Wenzinger. Archiv 2723 074 (six discs).

Telemann: Wind Concertos. Holliger/Copple/Nicolet/Camerata Bern. Archiv 2533 454; 3310 454.
Lieder und Arien des Barock. Prey/Vienna Capella Academica. Philips 9500 750.

Vivaldi: Cello Concertos. Tortelier/LMP/Ledger. EMI ASD 3914.
Bach/Händel/Vivaldi: Oboe Sonatas. Holliger/Pich-Axenfeld/Cervera. Philips 9502 019.
Händel: Six Concerti Grossi, Op. 3. ECO/Leppard. Philips 9502 006; 7313 006.
Händel: Fireworks Music/Water Music Suite No. 1. ECO/Leppard. Philips 6527 047; 7311 047.

How long before we hear complaints of the Telemannization of Radio 3? With increasing exposure on the air and a large-scale radio series due to start next weekend, Telemann's seventeenth-century music is cracking start. Archiv Produktion joins in the celebration by reissuing two boxed sets of music from Telemann's subscription series. The 62 items of *Der getreue Music-Meister* (the first music periodical to include entire compositions, some by guest contributors) reveal almost as wide a variety of style, form and invention as the music of the major composers, and are performed on a good cross-section of contemporary instruments.

The set was first released in 1967 for the two-hundredth anniversary of Telemann's death and the style of instrumental playing has for the whole worn better for our ears than the vocal: the choral singing and Hertha Topper's contralto, in particular, sound laboured and overwrought. But I especially enjoyed Gerhard Unger's imaginatively characterized "Die Kuh" from the opera *Aesopus*, the strangely

modest, folk-like Sonata in G for descant and bass viols, the irresistible "Carillon" for two shawms, Eduard Melkus's daring, off-in violin sonata by Signor Stormer, and a clavi-chord Fantasia by Mr Hattmeier, given a sensitively scaled recording.

Telemann's later collection of *Tafelmusik*, a twin in recording quality and presentation, is despite its title, even more satisfying musically. More of a bouquet than a pot-pourri, its three "Productions" of suites, concertos, quartets, trio and solo sonatas and Conclusions point to the characteristic sensitivity to the "diverse natures of various instruments" in various combinations. The performances, on period instruments, reveal carefully studied and elegantly executed rhythmic ideas and ornamentation, even if there are times when such earnestness could be tempered by a little wit and higher spirits.

There is more sense of movement and no less idiosyncratic musicianship in the Camerata Bern's performances of Telemann's inventive and often astonishingly original wind concertos. Constantly enlivened and regenerated by beats of folk music, recorder and flute seem to emulate a burdy-gurdy here, oboe d'amore a shepherd's pipe there, all within shapely French and Italianate moulds.

Five of Telemann's jolly, neatly characterized little continuo folk songs are included in Hermann Prey's recital of baroque songs, sacred and secular, many of which provide valuable insights into the early development of German song. The vocal performances are not, alas, as contrasted in manner as in matter, with the lively numbers a little over-earnest, equal if not greater pleasure is provided by the inexhaustibly inventive accompaniments bubbling away underneath, or, as in Eduard Melkus's quasi-impassioned violin refrain, Krieger's "Der Rheinische Wein", dancing their way in and out of the words.

Paul Tortelier and the London Mozart Players give muscular, boldly projected performances of three of Vivaldi's cello concertos, with his Coriolan influence sounds almost archaic. Heinz Holliger's stylish performance is full of spirited enthusiasm, while his playing of three of Händel's oboe concertos, their more spacious themes wreathed in most beautifully executed decorations, perfectly realizes the subtle lights and glowing sensuousness which the music shares with the nicely matched Willard Glass Heda still-life on the sleeve.

One of the main attractions on a reissue from the 1972 two-record set of Händel's *Concerti Grossi*, Op. 3, must be the playing of David Munrow, Richard Adeney and Neil Black sharpening the luxurious sheen of Leppard's generous quota of strings. Another, thanks to Leppard's direction and the immaculate recording, is the revelation of Händel's perfectly judged levels of recession of instrumental tone and colour: listen, for example, to the bold patterning of the violin relief over the dotted rhythms of the opening *Vivace* of No. 2.

From Stokowski and Boult to Darr and Hogwood everyone has his own favourite *Fireworks* and *Water Music*. Leppard's Seventies recordings are available once again, contributing to the catalogue their own distinctive elan, svelte stylishness and unashamed aural hedonism.

Hilary Finch

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There are no other direct flights from London to Puerto Rico. Alternative routes are via Miami, San Juan or New York (booked and paid for not less than 21 days in advance) from London to Miami cost £328 return on British Airways, TWA and Pan Am. Connecting daily flights from Miami to San Juan are with US carriers and cost \$200 return.

Laker Airways' excursion fare to Miami (which must be booked and paid for at least 21 days in advance) is now £289 return for the period July 1 to September 15. This price is due to rise on April 7 but will apply to flights paid for before that date.

Shona Crawford Poole

David Hewson

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Golden images locked in glass

Joanna Nutty is an artist who engraves in pure gold. She has revived an ancient craft and has given it a modern interpretation by engraving pictures, boxes, paperweights and pendants in gold on glass and painting the design with translucent watercolour. The effect is something like Indian cloth of gold trapped in ice.

An ex-ballerina, she was forced by an accident which prevented her walking for three years to find some other outlet for her artistic talent and she fell in love with some gold engravings at the V & A.

She taught herself to imitate them and from "scratching away with some old gold paint" she developed such a high degree of skill that she now works with sheets of pure gold leaf.

She tried to research the subject but could find very little help. The technique

has been traced to Alexandria, where a gold engraved medallion was discovered in the walls of the catacombs. It had its heyday in Roman times, when double walled bowls — one gold engraved and the other slipped over to protect it — were highly prized, and in the 17th century there was a vogue in Holland for small panels featuring religious subjects, birds and flowers.

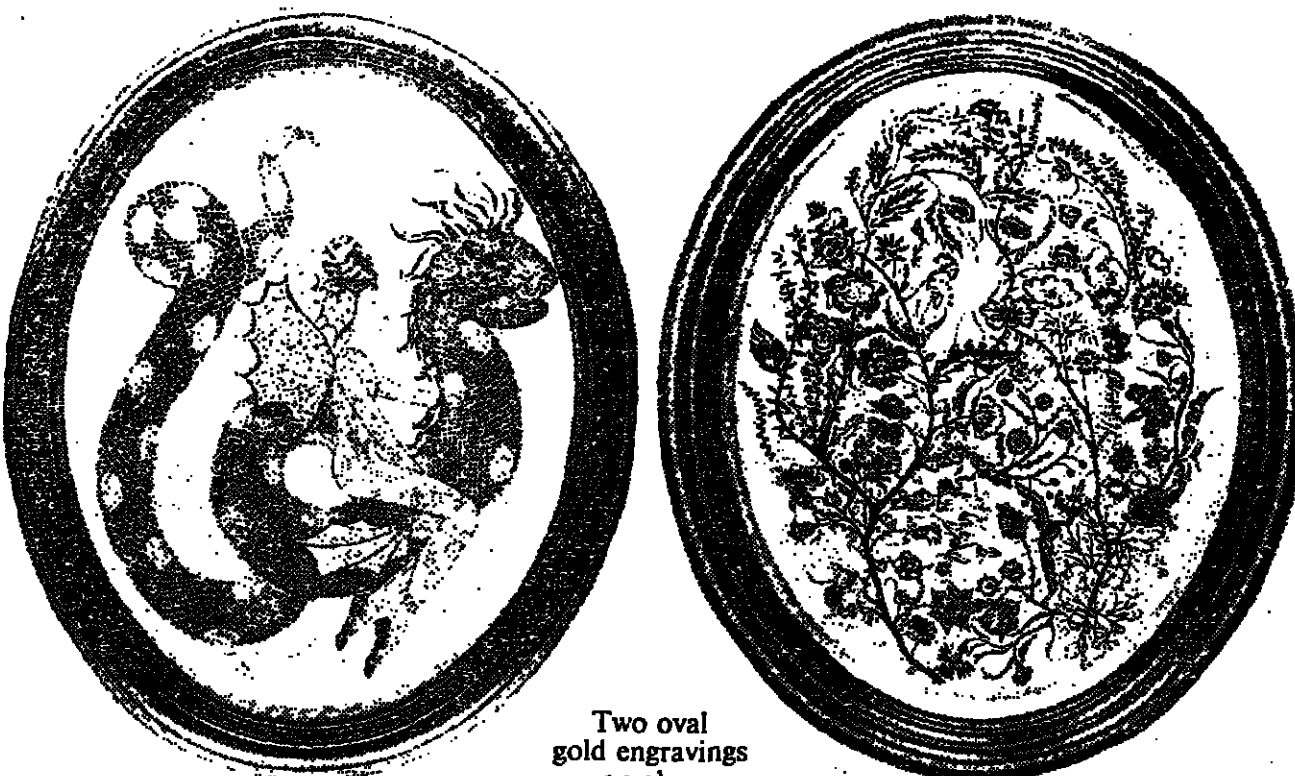
So she learnt by trial and error. The gold leaf is laid on the underside of the glass to be decorated and the design is scratched with sewing needles held in a pin vice bought from a hardware shop. It is an exacting task. Mistakes cannot be rectified and the gold leaf is at first so soft that it can easily be rubbed off while the design is being created and then, after about 10 days, so brittle that it is no longer workable.

"I can only start when I am mentally prepared. I sit down with a cup of tea and the needle and I know instinctively when I am ready. I then work through for seven or eight hours without a break. I just know I won't make a mistake."

At first she concentrated on pictures and beautiful boxes with the sides and lid engraved and set into solid rosewood, but working on larger objects when the time for completion is limited by the malleability of the material is very demanding — sometimes it is necessary to put in 12 hours a day for 10 days, which is not a pace anyone can sustain for weeks on end.

So more recently she has been expanding her range to include other decorative objects — smaller, black enamel boxes with engraved glass lids, double sided pendants, the size of a Churchill crown, with a different design on each side and flat paperweights with a rose on underneath which is filled with the gold decoration.

Prices range from £35 for the glass paperweights and £50 for the pendants to about £500 for a picture and £800 for the rosewood boxes. No two designs are alike and individual commissions can be discussed, so if you have a particular style of design in mind it could be engraved specially for you. For more details write to Joanna Nutty, 193 Goldhurst Terrace, London NW6.



Two oval gold engravings on glass by Joanna Nutty

Being a devoted bee-keeper takes only half a minute a day

If you have always wanted to keep a rainbow trout on a roof in Rotherhithe or a beehive on a balcony in Bow, a book published this week will tell you how to go about it.

It is called *Taking Stock* (Jill Norman, £3.95) and its author, Peter Isaac, sets out to prove that, however small a space you have, you can become a modest stockman. A productive animal will cost the same to keep as a domestic pet, he says, provide you with a certain amount of self-sufficiency and a great deal of satisfaction and "if you plan properly, farm animal husbandry can be slotted into your everyday life."

He starts the book with a series of plans for stocking various areas from the balcony to a small holding, showing what you can expect to keep and how much time each day you need to devote to the

livestock you choose. (Bees ½ minute, pigeons one minute, sheep five minutes, goats 25 minutes, cows 30 minutes — for those of you planning to rival the Archers.)

He then deals with equipment, fencing, housing the animals and discusses laws, cost, where to buy, how to feed and whether the animal will smell, yell and pay for its keep.

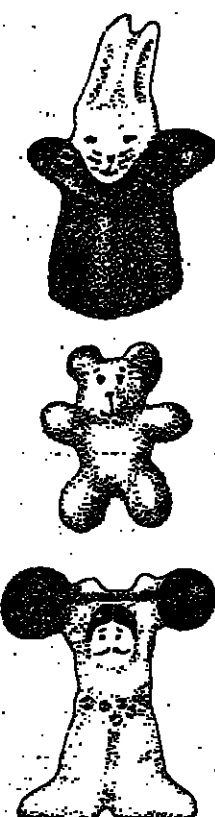
The net profit, for instance, on a cow providing 320 days of milk and 450lb of meat is £303.20 a year, 100 trout selling at £1 each will give you £41 after deducting the cost of their keep, 10 guinea fowl £2, and 20 rabbits £19 "plus a few good meals as well".

Ah, there's the rub. I have had only two attempts at the Good Life. The first was a sort of Looking Glass experience when I was a child and my mother kept chickens as a war effort. We had

lots of fresh eggs while everybody else was mixing up little messes of dried yellow powder, but the thought of eating friends you have not only been introduced to, but have christened with names like Clara and Hermione, was beyond both us and the call of national duty so we maintained them at great expense until they died of rheumatism.

The second was when my husband and I bought a farmhouse with three incubator ducks. Eight years later two died and we gave the third to a neighbour who came round in tears one day because her drake had lost his mate and was pining for what she delicately described as a "companion".

It only occurred to me later that I might have sent Dora to a fate worse than death and I have never attempted to meddle with nature since.



Above: Amusing hand-painted ceramic brooches, 1 in high, £1.20 each, made by Andy and Tamsin Titcomb, 43B, Strand, Topsham, Nr Exeter, Devon. Also at the General Trading Company, Sloane Street, London, SW1; Cloud Nine, Jesmond, Newcastle; Rainbow, Clifton, Bristol.

Sweetheart plants need not be too dear

If you like house plants but are put off by the high charges for the more imposing varieties, you will enjoy a visit to a shop in Marylebone which specializes in plants at more probable prices.

It has been opened by Nevin and Sidney Moss as part of their interior design shop, *Swellegance Interiors*, 14-16 Balustrade Street, London W1, as they often found that clients wanted not only the background decor but also the finishing touches in the form of plant displays.

Most of their jungle of greenery is bought in Covent Garden, where Sidney Moss buys specimens for the contract plant maintenance side of the business. He also hires plants to photographers and for film and television sets and these, if they are in good enough condition when they are returned, are sold at considerable reductions.

A 6ft sweetheart plant, for instance, which came back from a photographer looking rather sad but is now resolutely reviving, costs £29 instead of the £45 it would be in prime condition. A huge Norfolk Island pine is £25 instead of £50. These bargains, if

feel, are for those who know that their green fingers can bring anything with a spark of life back to full splendour.

For those with less talent there are plants in perfect condition and even these are considerably cheaper than you will find in many other West End suppliers. A magnificent four-stem yucca, for instance, is £57.50, a three-stem rubber plant £23 and a Kenya palm £39.99. There are also yucca heads at £7.90 and lavish ferns at various prices according to size.

You can also find all the accessories you need to show off your plants to best advantage. There are five sizes of bamboo plant stand from £10.50 to £22.50, self-watering pots from £10, moss sticks from £1 to £3 and a selection of cache pots in bamboo at very low prices — one big enough to hold a 10ft tree costs only £9.

If the thought of struggling home with a temperamental weeping fig disturbs you, do not worry — deliveries can be arranged free in Central London and for a nominal charge to outlying areas. For more information telephone 01-486 9418.

Trading on other people's names

A shop specializing in famous signatures has opened in Sunningdale, Berkshire. It is called *The Autograph Shop* and it has photographs, documents and mementoes which have been signed or once belonged to people as diverse as Marilyn Monroe, Abraham Lincoln and Noel Coward.

Ian Sayer, the owner, had discovered when researching a book that he had to go to the Continent and America to find the signed documents he needed and that, in spite of a keen interest in autographs in this country, it was difficult to find the dealers who specialized in them.

So he began to accumulate the sort of signatures that would make interesting decoration as well as documentation — Christmas cards signed by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, letters from Florence Nightingale, Lillie Langtry, Buffalo Bill, photographs and books — even a sprig of heather taken from Prince Charles's christening font, mounted with a letter of authentication from his nurse at Buckingham Palace. Framed items are from £20, unframed from £1.

Indeed, putting a price on a signature these days can have some ego-deflating side effects. I wonder if Ronald Reagan, £180, likes being pipped past the post by Elvis Presley, £225, and does Henry Kissinger, £50, know that he is only a fiver ahead of Hopalong Cassidy?

Rarity is one of the most important factors in assessing the value of a signature, so if you have an avid autograph hunter in the family, Ian Sayer's advice is to do something a little more than just getting a star to sign an album.

"Autograph albums aren't really terribly interesting or valuable unless they contain someone really rare. Most people get several signatures on one page and then get others to sign on the back of the same page, which is really no use commercially."

The best plan is to write to a star and ask a really interesting question, enclosing a photograph and asking for a signature. With any luck if the question is good enough, the star might write a personal letter back.

The most prized possession in Ian Sayer's own collection is the document signed by Admiral Donitz in 1945 authorizing the negotiations that led to the German surrender. There were two copies — his, valued at £50,000, and the other in the American National Archives.

Some people concentrate on single subjects for their collections. Beware if American presidents or astronauts are your interest because many of them use a diabolical device called an Autopen — a machine which holds a pen and copies a signature mechanically.

Those of us blessed with less than distinguished names might take heart from a study of the value of autographs. It took Beryl Bainbridge to reassure me that perhaps my parents had intended me for a literary career after all and had not thought of me as a comedienne or a barmaid, so I have been considerably comforted to learn of the value of one with an equally unmusical label, one yclept Button Gwinnett.

Button, would you believe, was a signatory of the American Declaration of Independence. While others who signed the declaration may be collected for a song, because they were somewhat ready with their autograph on all sorts of other less resounding bits of paper, Button, died in a duel at an early age and had no time to sign anything much. The result is that, when you can find it, his autograph is worth in the region of £25,000.

If a congressman who sounds like a pantomime page can do it, there is hope for the rest of us, who may yet find our signatures for sale at *The Autograph Shop*, Station Parade, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire.

The man who went to work on good old English wooden eggs

A company which is beating the recession and was even working overtime at Christmas has a success story which will make anyone facing redundancy take heart. It has been built by a self-taught craftsman, Robin Ellis. Instead of moaning when he found himself without a job he picked up his cheque, dusted down his pride — and went to work on an egg.

It was a rather special egg, made of beautifully grained wood and it contained the embryo of a

business which now has a mailing list of 7,000 customers. To tell the truth, it was not quite as easy as all that. He had no wood turning experience and cannot draw, so he had to teach himself the techniques of handling and shaping wood from scratch, helped by the discerning eye of his wife, Mary.

He also had to come to terms with customers who thought craft was a part-time hobby and expected to get made-to-measure carpentry at Third World prices, and then with large stores who

wanted to dictate their own terms.

There were mistakes and frustrations, but eventually the egg, commissioned originally by David Hicks, was to prove the turning-point in his success. At first he showed at craft markets and agricultural shows, but whatever the weather the eggs sold and people kept coming back for more. He had started a collecting craze.

Eventually, having turned his home into a workshop, with the office in the spare room, he was able to take over a small factory in Linton, Cambridgeshire, and now has a flourishing mail order business, adding new designs each season to a range of simple, good ideas made in beautiful, natural woods.

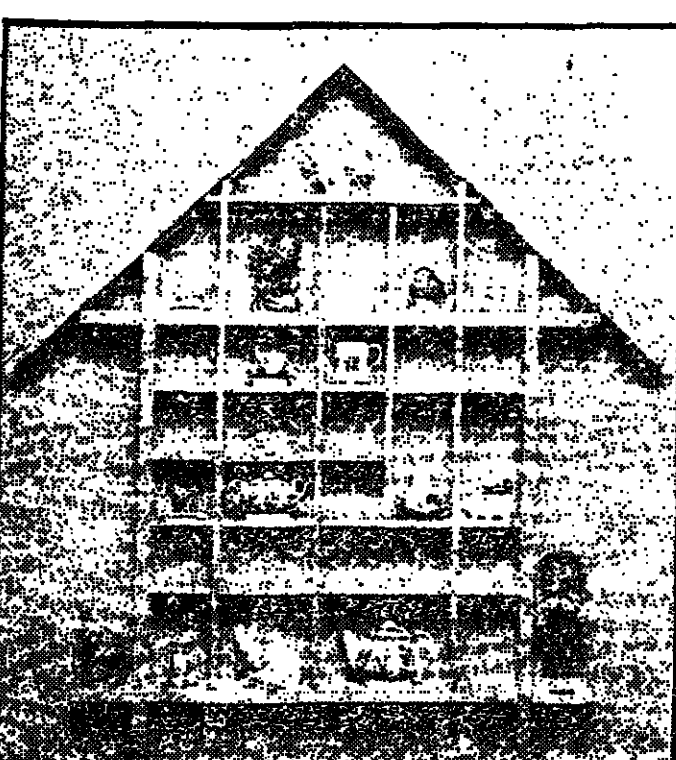
The products fit neatly into a slot between traditional and the sort of modern design Robin and Mary consider "too square and chunky". They adapt traditional ideas, "smoothing out the fuss" and taking advantage of modern finishes to protect the natural woods. Their prices are not excessive as they combine machine-made techniques in keeping the cost down with hand finishing to give each item quality.

The eggs, of course, are still in the range. There are now 15 to choose from — English yew, oak, elm, walnut, sycamore, ash and beech, plus rosewood, mahogany, pine and oak from Africa, India, Canada, Asia and the West Indies. The whole collection costs £35.25 plus £2 p&p and individual eggs are available from £2 to £3.95 plus £1 p&p.

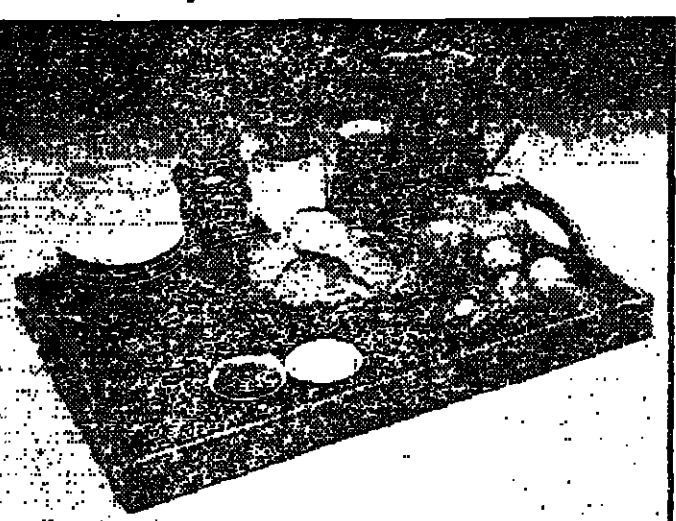
Also in the range are some good looking wood trays including a butler's tray, 24in x 16in, in oak or elm, at £19.50 (these are available at John Lewis, Oxford Street, London W1, if you prefer to look before you buy). There is also a more delicate Family Hostess tray, 18in x 12in, in Indian rosewood, £35, and English yew or American black walnut, each £31, all including p&p.

A good and economical idea for those who like tables draped with fabric to match curtains or wallpaper is a collection of round table bases, in various sizes. The 16in diameter x 16in high cost £16 a pair and 24in by 24in and 20in by 24in are both £18.50 a pair. They are self-assembly and made of chipboard, but who wants to buy an expensive table if it is to be covered up?

Illustrated leaflets are available on all the products and the whole range can be seen in the factory showroom if you live near Linton. The telephone number for Robin and Mary Ellis Design Manufacture is 0223 892592.



For children's rooms, a pine display unit in Swiss chalet style, 21in x 24in, £8.90, including p & p, from Robin and Mary Ellis.



Butler's tray in oak or elm, £19.50, has separate fold-away legs to match at £9. Prices include p & p from Robin and Mary Ellis, Linton, Cambridge.

Distinctively yours and on approval

British Telecom have added two new shapes to their special range of telephones — and the names they have given them sound as if the designer was having some sleepless nights in the Alps. They are called Dawn and Eiger.

Dawn is a rotund telephone suggested as an extension phone for the bedroom and comes in pale yellow, avocado, and white. It costs £18 plus an extra £2 quarterly rental and is available now.

Eiger is an upright press-button telephone with a memory. It comes in red, two-tone brown and stone, and is available with a silence button which cuts off the transmitter for residential use and a recall button for use with a switchboard.

Both versions will store the last number called and will call it again automatically. Each costs £27 plus £2 extra quarterly rental. Orders can be placed now and

they will be available within about three weeks.

In view of the wide range of "unapproved" telephone designs available in many shops, British Telecom are often criticized for their somewhat entrenched attitudes. So I asked them, if they want people to buy their approved versions rather than the larger variety of designs available in specialist shops, why they impose an extra rental charge.

Maintenance, they said. Fewer special phones are sold, so replacement is more expensive — and when something goes wrong they do not bother to fiddle about replacing bits, they just provide a whole new machine. Also some of the phones are made abroad and have to be adapted for British use.

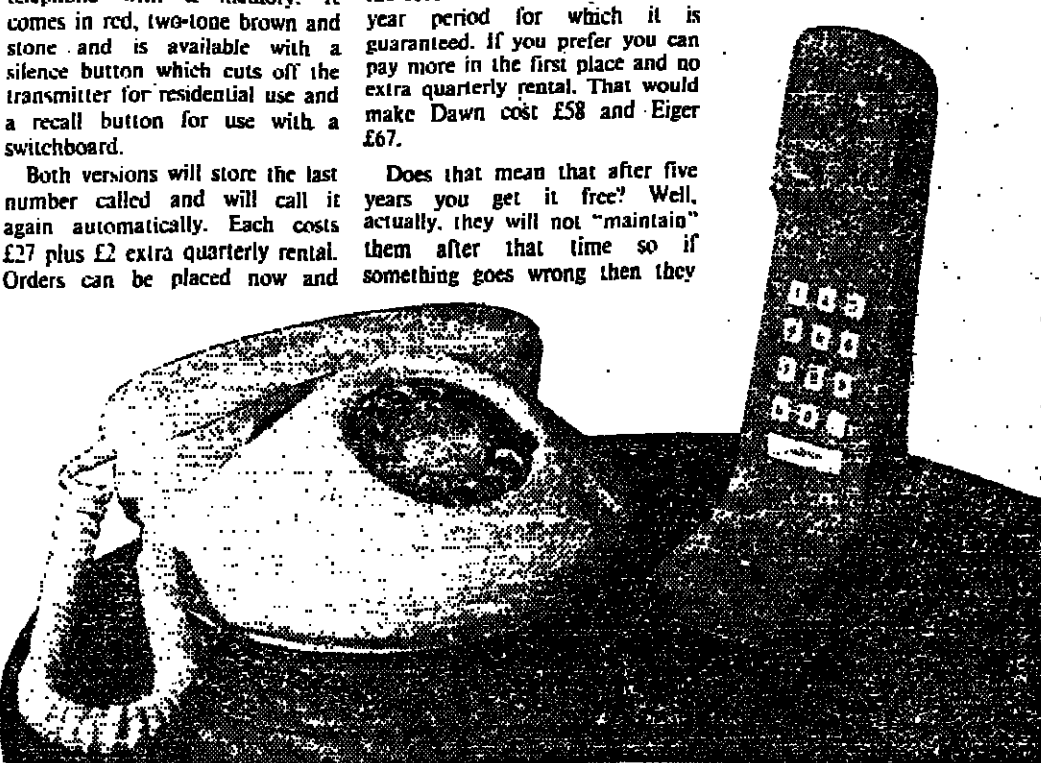
Moreover, they are "spreading the cost" of the unit over the five-year period for which it is guaranteed. If you prefer you can pay more in the first place and no extra quarterly rental. That would make Dawn cost £58 and Eiger £67.

Does that mean that after five years you get it free? Well, actually, they will not "maintain" them after that time so if something goes wrong then they

replace them with a standard phone.

Whoever heard of a telephone that was only expected to last for five years? Is there a European funny phone mountain waiting to be sold off to countries using tom-toms? If that is what is happening to my extra rental I might just pop round to an "illegal" telephone stockist and take the risk of getting British Telecom's wires in a twist.

Below: Dawn left, £18 and Eiger, £27 — two of the new designs approved by British Telecom and available through your local telephone sales office.





POLAND IN PERIL AGAIN

It would be a tragic absurdity if Poland were brought to ruin by the lunacy of a few security police in Bydgoszcz—or perhaps by the irresponsibility of those who gave them their orders. Yet that is now a possibility. The beating of several members of Solidarity on March 19 was the first political violence to be perpetrated since the rise of the independent unions began last summer. It has made the situation more perilous than it has been for a long time. Tomorrow's meeting of the Central Committee will be crucial.

The details of the Bydgoszcz incident are still disputed. The basic facts are that six delegates from Solidarity were invited to attend a meeting of the Bydgoszcz District Council to discuss farmers' grievances. The meeting was then suddenly adjourned before they had a chance to speak, and some of the members of the council rushed out. The remainder tried to continue the meeting but were asked to leave by the head of the council. Later the local prosecutor arrived and told the Solidarity delegates that they would be ejected if they did not leave. According to their own version they merely asked for a little extra time to complete a discussion. According to the Government the local authorities got the impression that they were occupying the building. The security police then moved in with totally unnecessary brutality and made a special point of beating up Mr Rulawski, President of Bydgoszcz Solidarity.

Perhaps there was a genuine misunderstanding. Perhaps the policemen exceeded their instructions in the heat of the moment. Or perhaps there was a political decision somewhere up the line to make a show of force. What seems reasonably certain is that the order, if it was one, did not come from the top leadership in Warsaw. Mr Kania, the party leader, and General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, understand the mood of the country and the strength of Solidarity well enough to know that the use of

violence in such circumstances is bound to provoke trouble. Solidarity at the grass roots is angry, restless and still deeply distrustful of the Government. It feels it cannot rely on the protection of the law or the voluntary support of the Government but must fight for every bit of space in which to exist. An attack on any individual member is therefore seen as an attack on its whole existence.

That is why it cannot give way—though it could postpone some of the wider demands, such as an amnesty for dissidents, which it has unwisely backed on to its specific request that those responsible for the Bydgoszcz incident be punished. Can the regime give way? It ought to be able to do so easily because it has every reason to dissociate itself from police brutality. The Prime Minister has already made an encouragingly sensible move by rejecting the first report by the Minister of Justice.

However, like Solidarity, the regime has to consider not only the incident itself but wider pressures. Moscow has been leaning on it hard to demonstrate its authority, principally by arresting dissidents. Worse still, since it comes from inside, is the pressure from hardliners within the Politburo who want the Government to declare a state of emergency and to use force against strikers. A few days ago they nearly succeeded in pushing through a vote to this effect and were defeated only by the Prime Minister's threat to resign.

How directly these people are following instructions from Moscow is impossible to say. Moscow can certainly be relied upon to misrepresent the situation sufficiently to believe that a show of force by Polish authorities might be successful. That Polish leaders could do so is difficult to imagine but it seems to be true of some individuals, unless they are deliberately trying to provoke a breakdown of order in which the Russians would have an excuse to intervene. This is possible, though the job of puppet ruler in such circumstances can hardly be very attractive.

The more charitable explanation is that desperation is growing in Warsaw and is affecting the judgment of otherwise realistic leaders. The economy is in a state of almost total collapse and the prospects for recovery are at best distant. Industrial and agricultural output have been dropping while wages are expected to rise by at least 17 per cent this year. Food supplies are dwindling fast, and Poland's debt to the West is now well over \$20,000m. In effect, Poland is bankrupt but nobody can afford to let it collapse. On top of this the party itself is in turmoil, with reformism fermenting at the lower levels to such an extent that it has become too risky to hold a party congress.

Yet in all this there are hopeful elements. One of the most surprising and encouraging aspects of the whole crisis has been the moderation and realism shown by almost all the responsible people involved. The Church, the leaders of Solidarity and even the dissidents have all come to accept the realities of Poland's political and geographical situation. They have been doing their best to prop up the existing regime while trying to negotiate with it. They have not used the power they have to sweep it away. They believe, and the realists in the party leadership believe, that compromise is possible, that the system could in fact learn to accommodate new union structures and other new forms of representation, and that in the long run it is more likely to be swept away if it does not do so.

Part of the trouble is that Moscow does not believe this, but resistance is also powerful from those within the Polish apparatus who cannot conceive of renegotiating the power structure of the country. If they prevail within the next few days they will have destroyed an historic chance for the country to adapt the system in a way which might even, in the long run, be in Moscow's interest because it would reduce the likelihood of future explosions and unpredictable chain reactions.

MR MUGABE DESERVES HIS MONEY

The result of the reconstruction conference in Salisbury is an overwhelming international vote of confidence in Mr Mugabe and his Minister of Economic Planning, Mr Chidzero. They asked, rather fiercely, for \$800 million to finance a three-year plan to heal the ravages of the civil war and set Zimbabwe up as the pivotal black state in central Africa. They got it all and more—nearly \$890 million in loans and grants (including some rescheduling of previous debts). Starting with some £260 million on the table, the conference proceeded to add another £620 million in pledges of aid. Amounting to over £100 per head of population this must be one of the biggest aid packages ever tented by a "developing" country.

The problem with aid has always been to absorb it—to convert lines of credit into productive agricultural or industrial enterprises, efficient farming, factories and services generating jobs by the hundred thousand. Too much aid generates little but administration, imports of food or luxuries, and, worse still,

inflation. Zimbabwe, however, is potentially rich and receptive—in the Nigeria class. Its mineral production, already growing, is capable of great expansion. The sanctions imposed on the illegal Smith regime fostered a wide range of surprisingly viable secondary manufacturing enterprises. Its agriculture is recovering.

As in Kenya, land settlement (in contrast to expropriation) involves expensively buying out owners as well as ploughing money in. Yet last year output generally rose 15 per cent and exports by a third, while fiscal incentives produced an almost embarrassing maize surplus. Zimbabwe is the only large African exporter of subsistence foods apart from South Africa (a solid inheritance, as in Kenya, from white farming prowess). Such facts have impressed investors. The World Bank contribution heads the list and Britain follows with £123 million. The United States, France, West Germany and Scandinavia have made useful contributions, though Japan (although no doubt expecting a large share of future Yugoslav) a meagre one. Even Yugoslavia invested something,

as did China, which built the Tazara railway as a contribution to better central African communications. Zimbabwe should now know who her friends are. Russia did not attend, and contributes nothing, though its representatives were engaged in behind-the-scenes bilateral talks whose outcome has yet to be revealed.

The test will be Zimbabwe's own enterprise and administrative ability and integrity. The West pins evident hope to its becoming a black counterpoise to South Africa, a new model for emulation. But Zimbabwe, dominated by South Africa, much as Canada is by the United States, and Pretoria is rubbing salt in the wound by planning new tariffs on Zimbabwean manufactures. This dependence can only be alleviated by alternative communications to the sea for all central Africa. If the West hopes for a strong, prosperous, non-racial Zimbabwe as a new centre of gravity in Africa it will have to reconsider the communications network (and its political implications). To extend it would cost a lot—but might prove cheaper than leaving South Africa largely in control of the economies of Zimbabwe and its neighbours.

M15 INQUIRY: A CONFUSION OF ROLES

Mr Chapman Pincher investigated M15 and now M15 is investigating Mr Pincher and his sources. It is somewhat incestuous and approaching the ridiculous. Mrs Thatcher gave a commendable performance in Parliament in setting out most of the relevant facts on the question of Sir Roger Hollis, but she has erred in authorizing a second security inquiry within weeks concerning the publication of information by journalists: the first followed the so-called Budget leaks in the Sunday newspapers.

It is very curious that the Prime Minister should one day be describing Mr Pincher's book as inaccurate and distorted and the next lending credibility to it by the full force of an M15 investigation. The security officers are not, presumably, engaged as correctors of the press, finding out how Mr Pincher made his alleged errors. But the real question is the misuse of M15 energies. It is a crucial arm of government to protect the nation from betrayal to its enemies. It is not to protect the Government from embarrassment in the press. Every recent government of both parties has confused these purposes.

In recent years policemen have been busy finding the source of embarrassment to government from reports about child benefit allowance or railway closures, to name but two of the more pertinent inquiries, whereas it is politicians who should be busy worrying away at the root problem. It is their inescapable fate to be embarrassed if they get it wrong; it is the duty of the journalist to report it; and it is the right of the public to know it.

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regulated, but it should be possible, if so besieged, for London Transport to reach into its bureaucracy for someone enlightened enough to mark out busking areas on tube stations and then issue licences for, say, a week at a time to anyone who could satisfy a small audition panel that he is not merely a beggar or confidence artist in disguise. Who knows what talents might be nurtured to the drumming of the southbound Bakerloo or the steady clatter of the Circle?

More important, however, is that passengers would have their spirits briefly lifted as they trudged the otherwise uncaring corridors. Somebody up there, they would feel, has recognized their humanity, their need for something more than a ticket and a train. Perhaps they would even feel slightly less angry at the huge price now demanded for a service which at the moment not only denies art but neglects function.

ALLEGRO VIVACE ON THE CIRCLE LINE

There was a time when London Transport showed some interest in moving our souls as well as our bodies. It took pride in design and admitted, at least by implication, that function and beauty were not incompatible. It seemed to believe that travel need not be a purely utilitarian business of getting so many tons of flesh from A to B but might also, even in the bowels of London, give a lift to the imagination.

Alas, no more. Its curmudgeonly attitude to buskers betrays a poverty of spirit and a loss of that broad concern for customers as people which ought to be the hallmark of public service. It persecutes these harmless itinerants, calling them rude names like "nuisance" and "obstruction" and in doing so it deprives the shuffling masses of those occasional poignant reminders that there is more to life than getting to Kennington or Barnet.

One hesitates to suggest any more areas where life could be

Holbein mystery unravelled

From Mr John Fletcher
The acquisition of Holbein's "Allegory of the Old and New Testaments" by the National Gallery of Scotland, reported by your Salt Room Correspondent on March 14, offers the public the opportunity to see a picture with an unusual historical background and of unsuspected significance. Many religious works such as altarpieces were painted by Hans Holbein the Younger, but this picture is the only one so far identified that has a theological subject. Twenty years ago, Grossmann detected in it numerous stylistic features characteristic of Holbein's work but he had no way of determining its provenance or its precise date, although he narrowed the latter to c.1522-30.

We now know that a northern European origin is implied by the panel being made of oak. Such a provenance is puzzling because, after leaving Basel for England via Antwerp in 1526, Holbein was in no northern city where the Lutheran doctrine portrayed in the painting was tolerated by the political authorities. My tree-ring analysis, however, has pinpointed Antwerp, the richest commercial city of the time, as the source of its panel. Various heretical activities flourished there in the 1520s to promote the enclaves of wealthy merchants, one such being Tyndale's translation of the Bible together with the printing of copies to send to England, where they annoyed Henry VIII. In the school of painting at Antwerp by Holbein a bird of passage, would have formed a comparable underground activity. Indeed, Antwerp as the source of this painting is not only feasible but virtually no other city is remotely likely.

No doubt Holbein needed the money that this commission brought him. It should be remembered when admiring the painting at Edinburgh that he was taking a calculated risk in painting this subject. His subsequent career in England could have been very different had his role in its creation been "leaked" to Henry VIII.

The brevity of Holbein's stay at Antwerp, only a month or so, explains why no other painting with such a definite Protestant bias is known from his hand. Indeed, it may well be that this picture and the emblematic painting, "Man on Horseback", recently acquired by the J. Paul Getty Museum in California, were the only two painted by Holbein in his short time at Antwerp.

The painting is not the first pictorial representation of the doctrine of the Lutheran faith, it is a very early one. The British public must be grateful to the trustees of the Weld Estate and to those who have contributed to its purchase for this reason. Indeed, it may well be that this picture and the emblematic painting, "Man on Horseback", recently acquired by the J. Paul Getty Museum in California, were the only two painted by Holbein in his short time at Antwerp.

JOHN FLETCHER,
Oxford University Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art,
6 Keeble Road,
Oxford.
March 18.

Abduction of Mr Biggs

From Dr D. Sayer
Sir, When Korean dissidents are forcibly abducted from their Japanese exile, we condemn. When Colonel Gaddafi's execution squads ply their trade on British soil, we protest. What then are we to make of the current capers in the Caribbean?

Mr Biggs would appear to be the victim of a kidnapping. The "operation" of Mr Miller and his "ex-SAS" colleagues is, in plainer language, a piece of violent and lawless thuggery which would not be tolerated anywhere the rule of law prevails. To seek Mr Biggs's extradition from Barbados under present circumstances condones that thuggery and makes a mockery of that law. Having failed to secure Mr Biggs's departure from Barbados by legal means, the British Government must leave him where he is.

DEREK SAYER,
University of Glasgow (Department of Sociology),
61 Sharnpark Avenue,
The University,
Glasgow.
March 26.

From Mr D. N. L. Levy and Mr K. J. O'Connell
Sir, It is important to correct an error in R. M. Francis's letter (March 27) in which he claimed that the train driver in the Great Train Robbery died because of "an assault during the carrying out of that crime".

The robbery took place in August, 1963. The train driver, Mr Jack Mills, died of a heart attack six and a half years later at the age of 63. When he died the West Cheshire Coroner stated: "I am aware that Mr Mills sustained a head injury during the course of the train robbery in 1963. In my opinion there is nothing to connect this incident with the cause of death."

Yours faithfully,
DAVID N. L. LEVY,
104 Hamilton Terrace, NW8.
KEVIN J. O'CONNELL,
48 Cholmeley Gardens, NW6.
March 27.

New ship, old crew?

From Professor F. P. Lisowski
Sir, From this island on the other side of the Eurasian continent it does seem as if a rather noisy hullabaloo has been generated by the media in your island about a new Social Democratic Party. New the party may appear, but the majority of its leadership surely is made up of the same rather discredited old management that was once swept out of office by the country. Thus we witness the return of a board of mismanagement under a new guise. What is it trying to sell?

Yours faithfully,
F. P. LISOWSKI,
Department of Anatomy,
University of Hong Kong,
Hong Kong.
March 20.

How far has women's equality progressed?

From the Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission
Sir, The professional women who wrote with Mrs Joanna Bogle to *The Times* on the subject of women and sex discrimination (March 25) have missed the point about equal opportunities being provided for both sexes.

They may have been successful in their chosen spheres; but their own successes are not reflected nationally. The majority of women's jobs are still unappreciated because women are clustered in low-paid, low-status occupations. On average women still only earn three-quarters of what men earn per hour and 91 per cent of office cleaners, 83 per cent of telephoneists, 82 per cent of shop assistants are women. The last census showed that only 11 per cent of management jobs were held by women.

Even in the professions to which your correspondents belong, they are in a minority. In medicine, only 16 per cent of general practitioners are women, only 12 per cent of university lecturers and 2 per cent of university professors are women, and 25 per cent of journalists are women. The percentage of women physicists and geologists is negligible. Although over 90 per cent of nurses are women, many of the top nursing posts are held by men. The Equal Opportunities Commission was set up to promote equality between the sexes. Inequality is suffered by men as well as women. The later retirement age of men and the discrimination against men who want to enter traditionally female jobs still exist. The EOC has had some success in helping to bring equality into social security and nationality law, but there is much to be achieved still in taxation and in employment. The Commission is seeking inequality at two levels, at work and in education. In the workplace we are trying to ensure that women get the training they need, the promotion they deserve, and the job opportunities they require when they return to work after bringing up their families. In education, we want to see both boys and girls having access to all subjects in the curriculum.

Until the proportion of girls getting CSEs and O and A levels in mathematics, the sciences and technical subjects improves, many careers will continue to be closed to women, and they will be continually excluded from representative ships and training opportunities later in life. Boys also deserve the chance to learn domestic science skills to be good husbands and fathers, and to study languages as much as girls do at present; that would certainly help the export drive.

There have been many advances in equality in the past five years, which have been built on the efforts of many women this century, but there is more to do and the EOC is charged with this responsibility and intends to carry it out.
Yours faithfully,
BETTY LOCKWOOD,
Equal Opportunities Commission,
Crest House,
Quay Street,
Manchester.
March 26.

Help for El Salvador

From Mr Hugh Thomas
Sir, Mr Michael Foot described on BBC *Panorama* (March 23) the Prime Minister as being "wrong and evil" in her support of President Reagan in respect of his backing for President Duarte of El Salvador.
Those are strong words. They are wrong. President Duarte is a democrat. He won a presidential election in 1972. He plans new elections in the future, probably next year. His government has embarked upon an exceptionally ambitious programme of agrarian reform which, if the communists guerrillas would stop murdering its organizers, would transform conditions in the Salvadoran countryside (for example, a March 1980, all estates larger than 1,250 acres became producer-cooperatives, with compensation paid to old landholders on the basis of 1976-77 tax returns).

No doubt the army and police in El Salvador have associations with highly unsavoury counter-revolutionary action groups. But if we are interested in the emergence in El Salvador of an open society with regular elections, the survival of free enterprise and creative foreign investment, President Duarte's coalition government offers the best bet, as I believe Mr Foot will eventually come to recognize.

The *Panorama* programme's treatment of El Salvador would have been better if, instead of a condescending attitude to the country ("every banana republic has its military band"), it made a more serious effort to explore the real ideology of the "Furioso Martí Liberation Front", which seeks to destroy President Duarte; any chance of that body contemplating a free election is as remote as evenuality as one being held in Cuba.
Yours faithfully,
HUGH THOMAS,
Centre for Policy Studies,
8 Wilfred Street, SW1.
March 25.

Threat to historic sites

From Mr J. F. O. Switzer
Sir, Lord Kenneth (March 23) has drawn attention to irreparable damage that will be done to the setting of Beverley Minster if the open field immediately adjoining it has houses built on it. The district council has given itself permission for this development, which is contrary to the structure plan, and the Department of the Environment will not intervene because it asserts that the Minister is not of national importance. (*The Times*, March 23). This is just the kind of case that one feared would occur as the result of changes made to planning law by the Local Government Planning and Land Act, 1980. County councils, which prepare structure plans, have been deprived of powers to ensure that development conforms to those plans. What safeguard or remedy has the public now got if the Department of the Environment will not intervene when a district council takes a decision which destroys part of the national heritage?

The Secretary of State for the Environment is charged with the duty of "securing consistency and continuity in the framing and execution of a national policy with respect to the use and development of land". Mr Heseltine has said that he will seek to fulfil the aim of that duty and that "it must be an underlying obligation on the Secretary of State in respect of planning and its execution". He has stated that he will not hesitate to call in applications which are of national importance. But if he

British passport in true colours

From Mr Lewis Massey
Sir, I must take issue with you about the general tone of your leading article, "The Burgundy British" (March 21), in which you state that our present passport possesses "some shreds of great-power swagger". Let us look at the history of that bureaucratic booklet.

Before the First World War, when Britain was at the peak of her imperial power, passports were totally unnecessary for travel in most countries of Europe (except, significantly, in Tsarist Russia) and of course in the British Empire. The Baecker guides of the period (I have a few) repeatedly say that "passports are unnecessary, except for obtaining delivery of registered letters". Our best passport during that time was the golden sovereign.

The actual document consisted of a single sheet of thin parchment, measuring 15 by 11 inches ("imperial quarto"). I have one before me in 1910 by the British Consul in Munich. It is embellished at the top with an engraved royal coat of arms, and unnecessary, except for obtaining delivery of registered letters". Our best passport during that time was the golden sovereign.

Immediately after the war British passports became much larger and, by then, indispensable. They still consisted of a single sheet, but were folded like a map. The present booklet was introduced in about 1925. At this period our world power status was already in a slow decline, while travel generally was becoming more easier with the need for visas and, later, for exchange control regulations.

Our passport, in its present form, is therefore a mere landmark in the decline of our country and certainly does not deserve to be fought for on the beaches, as you suggest. As for the colour of the proposed new passport, being an Englishman, I would consider Nuts St Georges more appropriate than Burgundy.

Yours faithfully,
LEWIS MASSEY,
20 Orchard Rise,
Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells.
March 22.

Civil Service strikes

From Mr M. D. Barnett
Sir, Your leading article of March 25 assumes that in the Civil Service dispute the employers would be unable to sack individuals who take industrial action technically falling short of breaking their contracts of employment without incurring the costs of tribunal awards for unfair dismissal.

Section 62 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978, precludes an unfair dismissal claim by an employee if the employer is taking part in a strike or other industrial action.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal in a very recent case, *Patel Packing Cases Ltd v Patel and Others*, IRLR vol 10 no 3 p 120-122, said that other industrial action does not imply necessarily contract breaches. It is the motives for the action that matter, so that even a ban by employers on non-contractual overtime may constitute other industrial action and hence there would be no worries for the employer as far as tribunal cases are concerned.

It appears, therefore, that the law will not stand in the way of the sackings you advocate in the present dispute.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. BARNETT,
Industrial Relations Officer,
The National Federation of Clay Industries Ltd,
West End Green,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
March 26.

Bound tribute

From Mr John Winton
Sir, As a publisher of books of naval history, in a very small way of business, I am required by a Mr A. T. Small, Agent, of 100 Euston Street, NW1, to deliver to him four copies of each book I publish. This is to comply with the provisions of a Copyright Act 1911 (1 & 2 Geo V, ch 46, section 15).

The four copies are for the four Legal Deposit Libraries: the Bodleian Library, Oxford, the University Library, Cambridge, the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh and the Library of Trinity College, Dublin.

Why should publishers in the United Kingdom be compelled by law to send free copies of their books, also paying postage and packing, for the benefit of a library in Dublin, which is not in the United Kingdom? It seems high time this law was amended.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WINTON,
Bluejacket Books,
Llandudno, Chwyd.

Worse than the disease

From Dr C. A. S. Wink
Sir, Lord Bowden (March 24) approves of the way the medical profession has derived a word, iatrogenic, to describe the harm it sometimes does, and suggests iatrogenic for harm done by politicians. I think iatrogenic should be reserved for doctors, parents and medical schools; medical mishaps should be iatropathic.

There are no words to describe the harm done by politicians, harm caused by indifference rather than ineptitude, but the signs and symptoms our leaders have been known to show—compulsive logorrhoea, delusions of grandeur, tunnel vision and so forth—tempt one to name syndromes after them: Foot syndrome, or Footing for example.

Dr Hugh Letang's book, *The Pathology of Leadership*, describes how crucial decisions of state have from time to time been made when the politician's or statesman's judgment was impaired by illness: Lord Bowden, I think, is referring rather to enormities brought about by politicians apparently in good health. For this malcondition I can only prescribe egocentism.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. S. WINK,
100 Wigmore Street, W1.

The Hayman case

From Mr Patrick Ide
Sir, If it became compulsory to engrave Thomas Jefferson's proposal on shaving mirrors (Mr Enderby's letter today—March 25) I feel sure that there would be an immediate and major rise in the growth of beard.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK IDE,
Kidds Hill Farm,
Coleman's Hatch,
Hartfield,
Sussex.
March 25.

Racing

Swinburn's tack can guide Black Minstrel to Lincoln

By Michael Seely

Walter Swinburn can start his first season as stable jockey to Michael Stoute on a high note by winning the William Hill Lincoln Handicap on Black Minstrel this afternoon. Black Minstrel finished third in King's Ride in this race last year, but not only does Duncan Sasse's seven-year-old meet his conqueror on 3 lbs better terms he has also had the benefit of a recent race in France where he finished fifth in the Prix de Saint-Coul.

Trying to forecast the result of this year's Lincoln is going to be more difficult than ever. The results of the first two days have shown that the low weight is the draw are favoured, and in addition, of 20 races run on the straight course in soft ground last season, 19 went to horses drawn on that side of the track. Five were won by those drawn in the high numbers and five came from the middle of the course.

This time, most of the fancied runners are starting from 12 to 15. This group includes Herons Hollow, Parloir Game, Folk Hero, Black Minstrel, Bezzique, and King's Ride. A great deal is going to depend on whether it has rained overnight, as in that case the low numbers will be even more favoured.

Cyprus Sky, Abington, Greenwood Star, and Lafontaine are all drawn low. All four have obvious chances on the low weight, but Greenwood Star and Abington are known to prefer fast going.

Salisbury's 2,000 Guineas trial in heavy ground at Salisbury last March and has won over hurdles at Cheltenham.

His trainer, Frank Durr, said yesterday: "Black Minstrel has too much weight. But he is well and I must admit that it now looks as though he

is well drawn." And with Glasgow Central from Ryan Price's stable drawn five, this Rose Rocket colt must also come in to the reckoning.

To revert to the unfortunate who have been allocated higher numbers, King's Ride has been de-facto a liability in his last two races. Brian Swinburn, his trainer, is well aware that the five-year-old needs further but the dead ground will slow down some of the faster horses.

Bezzique is a fancied runner from Lambourn who will be trying to repeat Blunney's victory in 1977 for Mark Stacey. However, in the hope that their jockeys will be able to tack their way over to the far side of the track, Black Minstrel is taken to win from King's Ride with Cyprus Sky a possibility for third place.

Widuburn can also win the Camidge Trophy on Kerry. Last season's Cork & Orrey Stakes winner is now trained in this country by Stacey and can prove too sharp for King of Spain and Rabdan. And a likely two-year-old winner from Epsom is Brian Swinburn's Express Fly, Shared Moment, in the South Yorkshire Stakes.

Every race run on the straight course in soft ground last season, 19 went to horses drawn on that side of the track. Five were won by those drawn in the high numbers and five came from the middle of the course.

His trainer, Frank Durr, said yesterday: "Black Minstrel has too much weight. But he is well and I must admit that it now looks as though he



Perks of a winner: Hissing Sid's storybook finish.

It was all to no avail. In the last 200 yards, Robert Barnes forced Carriage Way past Melvan to win by half a length. The pattern continued in the last race of the afternoon, the Will Scott Handicap in which the first three home, Covergill's Choice, Roger Bacon and Winter Wind all finished against the far rails.

Both the Easterly brothers continued in winning vein. Peter captured the Doncaster Town Plate with Angelo, Salvin, who made every yard of the running in the hands of Kevin Hodgson.

Doncaster Exhibition Centre Stakes (3-y-o): £2,401.75. 1. Contini, W. Marshall, 9-0. 2. G. Buxar, 4-1. 3. G. Buxar, 4-1. 4. G. Buxar, 4-1. 5. G. Buxar, 4-1. 6. G. Buxar, 4-1. 7. G. Buxar, 4-1. 8. G. Buxar, 4-1. 9. G. Buxar, 4-1. 10. G. Buxar, 4-1. 11. G. Buxar, 4-1. 12. G. Buxar, 4-1. 13. G. Buxar, 4-1. 14. G. Buxar, 4-1. 15. G. Buxar, 4-1. 16. G. Buxar, 4-1. 17. G. Buxar, 4-1. 18. G. Buxar, 4-1. 19. G. Buxar, 4-1. 20. G. Buxar, 4-1. 21. G. Buxar, 4-1. 22. G. Buxar, 4-1. 23. G. Buxar, 4-1. 24. G. Buxar, 4-1. 25. G. Buxar, 4-1. 26. G. Buxar, 4-1. 27. G. Buxar, 4-1. 28. G. Buxar, 4-1. 29. G. Buxar, 4-1. 30. G. Buxar, 4-1. 31. G. Buxar, 4-1. 32. G. Buxar, 4-1. 33. G. Buxar, 4-1. 34. G. Buxar, 4-1. 35. G. Buxar, 4-1. 36. G. Buxar, 4-1. 37. G. Buxar, 4-1. 38. G. Buxar, 4-1. 39. G. Buxar, 4-1. 40. G. Buxar, 4-1. 41. G. Buxar, 4-1. 42. G. Buxar, 4-1. 43. G. Buxar, 4-1. 44. G. Buxar, 4-1. 45. G. Buxar, 4-1. 46. G. Buxar, 4-1. 47. G. Buxar, 4-1. 48. G. Buxar, 4-1. 49. G. Buxar, 4-1. 50. G. 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Rising income and real capital growth

13.7%
income*

26.2%
total growth*
(capital plus income)

*ANNUAL AVERAGE GROWTH RATES SINCE 1975

As the table shows, GT Income Fund has consistently and substantially outperformed inflation. Over the past 1, 2, 4 and 6 years, the growth in the value of units combined with income have far outstripped growth in the Retail Price Index and the Financial Times Industrial Ordinary share index.

% increase over the past years

	1	2	4	6
Increase in value (dividends reinvested)	+32.7	+43.5	+141.9	+304.2
Increase in income	+5.9	+27.6	+80.0	+115.5
Increase in RPI	+15.5	+35.6	+67.1	+140.7
Increase in FT index	+20.8	+11.3	+58.9	+279.2

(Various periods to 31st December 1980)

GT Income Fund

The Fund is invested mainly in UK equities and has succeeded in combining increasing income with good capital growth. Over the last six years, the total return (capital & income) has risen by 26.2% p.a. and dividends have increased by an average of 13.7% p.a. Inflation means that high income today is of no use unless it is even higher tomorrow. GT Income Fund aims to invest in companies producing dividends that should continue to grow, coupled with prospects for above-average capital growth.

Beating Inflation

The record of the Income Fund shows that the growth in income and capital has beaten inflation over the past 1, 2, 4 and 6 years.

It is not surprising, therefore, that GT Income Fund ranks as one of the top performing trusts of its kind.

Although past performance is no guarantee of future success, it is a useful guide to determine trends.

Facts about GT Unit Managers

Part of the GT Management Group, which manages £650 million, GT Unit Managers looks after about £40 million of unit trust funds and has an outstanding investment record.

GT Unit Trusts consistently rank among the top performers and, in the past three years GT has twice achieved the distinction of managing the best performing Unit Trust in the country.

GT UNIT MANAGERS

Last year, GT's Income Fund was the second best performer in its sector (per Plannet Savings) and we believe that its prospects for growth in 1981 remain above average.

GT Funds	GT Fund Performance % gain		
	1 year	2 years	4 years
GT Far East & General	+91.6	+108.3	—
GT Income	+32.7	+43.5	+141.9
GT Capital	+41.1	+82.3	+164.2
GT International	+46.4	+61.5	+132.4
GT US & General	+48.1	+72.5	+68.4
GT Pension Exempt	+53.0	+43.9	—
GT Japan & General	+35.1	+13.0	+64.9

Performance Figures: Plannet Savings

*Source: Plannet Savings (various periods to 31st December 1980)

How to invest

Unit trusts are a long-term investment. They are not suitable for money which may be needed at short notice.

The aim of the fund is long-term capital growth and increasing income.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

To invest in the GT Income Fund, please fill in the form below and send it to us with your cheque.

General information

Trustee: Lloyds Bank Limited, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS. The Trust is authorised by the Department of Trade and Commerce as a "wider range" investment. The offer of units on 24 March was £2.75 and estimated gross yield 4.1%. Applications will be acknowledged and confirmed by the Trust within six weeks. An initial charge of 2% is included in the offer price. An annual charge of 0.5% V.A.T. of the capital value of the Fund is deducted from the gross income of the Fund to defray management expenses. Subject to this annual charge and net of V.A.T., income is allocated to unitholders each 27 April and 27 October. (First payment in response to this advertisement will be 27 October). Units may be sold back at any time at the bid price ruling on receipt of your request and payment will normally be made on seven days. Prices of units and yield are quoted in the National Press and following an initial purchase, they may be bought in multiples of five. Commission of 1% is paid to recognised agents on the initial charge. Rates are available on request. The managers are GT Unit Managers Ltd, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2. Registered in London No. 903877. Members of the Unit Trust Association. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

GT INCOME FUND

GT Unit Managers Limited, Park House, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7JD, 01-628 8131.

1/We wish to invest the sum of £ (minimum £200) in Units of the GT INCOME FUND and the price ruling on the day you receive this application. 2/We enclose a cheque payable to GT Unit Managers Ltd. An account cannot be opened in the name of a minor but an application may be made by an adult and the account designated, i.e. "A" or "B" with the minor's initials.

(One of joint applications all names and provide names and addresses on a separate sheet)

Full Christian Names BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE (please write Mr, Mrs, Miss or Title)

Surname

Address

T 28/3

"1980 was another record year for Nationwide. Mortgages approved exceeded £1,000 million for the first time."

Sir Herbert Ashworth, Chairman of Nationwide Building Society, addressed the Annual General Meeting of members of the Society in London on Friday 27 March.

The following are points from Sir Herbert's speech:

- New loans totalled more than £1,000 million in 1980. Over 66,000 loans were made: half of these to first time buyers and over a third on property over 50 years old.
- Record investment receipts of £2,188 million in 1980.

- Nationwide assets increased by a record £719 million to £4,654 million (+18.3%). At the year end reserves had risen to £148 million.
- Over 1 million new investment accounts were opened in 1980 and there are now nearly 3 million Nationwide members.

Nationwide Building Society

Please call in at any of our 1,000 branches or agency branches for your free copy of our 1980 Report and details of our services for investors and borrowers.

Head Office: New Oxford House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PW. Funds exceed £4,650 million. Authorised for investment by trustees. Member of the Building Societies Association.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE I

Taxation

Personal pensions—act now

Since the Finance Act 1980, the retirement annuity or personal pension plan has become one of the most potent tax planning devices available. It can now be used for CIT planning, school fees, house purchase, partnership funding, life assurance and health insurance investment planning, pure income tax saving as well as, of course, providing a lump sum and income at retirement.

You can now invest up to 173 per cent of net relevant earnings into a personal pension plan and, in effect, receive income tax relief at your highest rate on the premium. The rules which govern when you actually get the tax relief for a premium are full of traps; partly this is because we are in a transitional period when the set of rules is disappearing and a new set has already come into force. The position is not helped by the fact that the legislation itself is rather obscure and that the Inland Revenue's interpretation has changed recently.

The basic rule is that tax relief

on premiums is normally available against assessable income in the year that the premium is paid. However, it is possible under the new rules to pay a premium and then to have the tax relief applied against the assessment for a previous tax year.

So, if you make an election in writing, you can ask for a premium paid in 1980-81 to be relieved against the assessable income of the previous year, that is 1979-80. But, if you had that is 1979-80. But, if you had no net relevant earnings whatsoever in the previous tax year, you can elect to carry back the relief to the year before that. So a premium paid in 1980-81 could be relieved against income for 1978-79, if there were no net relevant earnings at all assessable in 1979-80. Then there are the old rules that are being phased out, and this is where the Revenue's change of mind has taken place. The position is now as follows. Where a premium is treated as having been paid before April 5, 1981, then a taxpayer can elect to receive the tax relief on the pension

contributions against the earnings in a year that is still "open", which can be as far as six years back.

This could be useful if it allows you to take tax relief on a year earlier than 1979-80. The rule says that you can receive tax relief against the earlier year if the contribution is made within six months after the date on which the tax assessment for the relevant year becomes final and conclusive.

The new carry-back provisions can be used in conjunction with these old rules but only where the six-month period ends on or after April 5, 1981. If, for example, an assessment for 1978-79 becomes final and conclusive on March 1, 1981, so long as the election to carry back is made by August 31, 1981, and a premium is paid before April 5, 1982, the tax relief can be carried back to the 1978-79 tax year. Until Hambro Life discovered this change in the Revenue's attitude a few weeks ago, it was generally believed that April 5 was an absolute dead

line for relating back to that year, which was still "open". Remember, the personal pension plan is for creating a fund for retirement. You get relief on your initial investment into the fund. The fund is not subject to income tax or capital gains tax, which is that it is likely to perform substantially better than any direct investments; and when you start drawing pension at any time between 60 and 75 or by stages in twelve, you receive a substantial lump sum plus an income for the rest of your retirement. Furthermore, in months one life office another has announced that the fund although usually not less than £5,000. This means the funds are not locked until retirement age; and a variety of other use you can afford to be less inhibited about the level of miums you pay because can, in an emergency get hands on the money earlier

A nine-point checklist

- Any non-pensionable earnings can be a basis for making a personal pension plan premium; so this is the investment that could take a lot of the point out of trying to evade tax on a part-time job.
- Check whether you have any net relevant earnings for past years where you have not used up your full entitlement to pay personal pension plan premium. Remember, you can go back six years from the year in which you are treated as having made the investment. So for a premium you paid this year, you can go back 1974-75 and for a premium you pay next year but elect to have treated as if you paid before April 6 you can also go back to 1974-75.
- You should try to get the tax relief in the year that you are likely to be paying the highest marginal rates of tax.
- In general, if your marginal rates of tax are about the same for each available year for which you can make a premium payment, you should probably make the election for the earlier year rather than the later one; you might even be in line for a repayment of tax.
- If you have some net relevant earnings and your main financial priority is pure life insurance cover, consider using personal pension plan term assurance because of the tax relief. It is probably the cheapest form of insurance you can buy.
- If you are taking out (or already have) life cover under a personal pension plan, consider arranging it so that it can form part of your CIT planning. The benefits can be paid free of CIT to anybody. In any event, it is probably better to have the policy written in trust, even if the intended beneficiary is your husband or wife, because the proceeds would then be received without having to wait for probate.
- Under no circumstances pay a premium on which you cannot get tax relief—you will not be able to carry forward unrelieved premium to a year (as used to be the case). Normally, it is probably worth keeping some potential relief and not the too many your payments. It is difficult and expensive to do.
- If you do decide that you need to draw on your pension fund by way of the "loan back" facility, try make sure that it is for a flying purpose where you tax relief on the loan an remember that at some you will have to pay back loan.

Danby Bloch c
Raymond Godfr

Maintenance payments

Why the tax rules need an overhaul

For years the single parent lobby has campaigned against the complicated formulae used by the Inland Revenue in taxing maintenance payments. People just do not understand the rules, they can do nothing to claim her full £200 a month.

His first problem—which the tax man has resolved to his own satisfaction but clearly not Mr Stock's—is the status of the financial agreement between him and his wife. Married man's allowance can be claimed in the year after separation only if the maintenance payments are voluntary.

As far as Mr Stock was concerned the agreement he signed, drawn up by two sets of lawyers, witnessed and registered as a legal document was a legally binding one. It is very common for solicitors to draw up such agreements between parties as soon as they split, in order to achieve the most tax-efficient method of support.

But Mr Stock's tax office has given him the married man's allowance—treating his agreement as a voluntary one. No one has explained this important point to Mr Stock himself, who is clearly under the impression that his maintenance agreement is, for tax purposes, a legally binding one.

From the decision of the tax authorities dramatic fiscal consequences flow. His payments would cost him less net if he could deduct tax at the standard rate, rather than have the married man's allowance. Under the tax rules you cannot have both.

send me a notice of codification which gives me a married person's allowance for the year after separation. I hear nothing of any tax allowance for a dependent child. My wife, meantime, can do nothing to claim her full £200 a month.

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Mr David Stock: in a muddle.

If he should divorce, as he plans to do, the fact that the Inland Revenue seems to be treating his agreement as a voluntary one has severe repercussions. He will lose even his married man's allowance, since this is given only for voluntary payments when separated. If you are divorced, there is no relief on voluntary payments at all. He would get no tax relief on his his £200 payment a month.

Clearly, the answer is that Mr Stock should establish the binding nature of his agreement either by pursuing it with the tax office or by changing the agreement. But that will not help his wife and son, who will then receive their £200 minus £60, and there is apparently no way of reclaiming the money

from the Inland Revenue it are domiciled outside United Kingdom.

Fortunately, the Tu authorities do not tax maintenance, otherwise there really is a problem, since it is a double taxation agree between the two countries. She might have to pay to what she received.

There is no way, either. Mr Stock can claim any allowance, even though he fully supporting his son. C benefit, the weekly cash fit that replaced the old eye of family allowances plus tax reliefs, is paid only to it with custody of children in this country.

There remains the residual child tax relief of £100-£16 the 1981/82 tax year (depending on age and irrespective of the number of children), which can be claimed in some circumstances by those supporting offspring abroad. But this being phased out entirely the tax year 1982/83.

Mr Stock's problem created only because he was to look after his wife and child in the most efficient fashion are complicated because wife lives overseas, but ignoring that and looking at the muddle of the United Kingdom tax system you are led to the conclusion that in a divorce the system of tax maintenance desperately needs simplification.

Margaret Drummond

National Savings

Buy before rates are cut

At last the Department of National Savings has come clean about the interest rate cuts planned for both the investment account ("invac") of the National Savings Bank and the replacement of the nineteenth issue of National Savings certificates.

The vague announcement in the Budget that the invac rate would be cut on May 1 has been given substance. The reduction will be the widely predicted drop from 15 per cent to 12 per cent. Investors who get their money in by next Tuesday will earn 15 per cent on it for the month of April; investments made in April do not qualify for interest until May.

Once interest rates began to ease it was only a matter of time before the nineteenth issue, paying 14.7 per cent gross to basic rate taxpayers, and more to higher rate payers, would be withdrawn. Well, now we know. It goes on May 9 to be replaced by the less attractive twenty-first issue yielding 9.02 per cent (12.9 per cent gross).

If you have not yet bought your full twentieth (maximum holding is £5,000) of the nineteenth issue, do so quickly. It is a very attractive offer and although it is more than likely that it will not be withdrawn until May 9, the Saturday before its successor goes on sale, there is no guarantee of this. (Note: The second issue of granny bonds was the twentieth issue to go on sale).

Investor's week

Chancellor stirs the market

It has been well said (which I say it again) that share buyers are already counting the profits and dividends to be made as the FT Index of 488 industrial shares has surged to a peak, the FT All-Share index is nudging its high and even the FT Index of 30 leading stocks rose this week from 500.9 to 521.3.

One more burst of buying and we will be back where we were on May 4, 1979, when the newly elected "Iron Lady" carried it to a record 558.6.

At this point, opinions diverge. Fools, trying to be wise, confuse the stock market with economics and both with politics. Shares rise strongly when the economy is turning, and start falling as the economy climbs upward. It may be, as the Chancellor's critics aver, that the economy will recover only weakly.

So it might, but for the moment all markets have to decide is whether Sir Geoffrey

Howe and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary, are right in identifying an upturn in the next few months. On this particular point nearly every observer says they are right. If so, the time to worry about the present upswing is mid-summer or the autumn.

By then we will decide whether inflation is still coming down or starting to go up, whether or not the Chancellor is being panicked into a vote ceding Budget which could be bad news for gilt-edged; and whether or not industry has scrapped so much capacity in the slump that a low ceiling has been put on its profits when demand picks up.

We will also know something else. The £1,000m of index linked Treasury stock 1996, inflation proofing without tears, was oversubscribed. The Government may launch more such stocks. Now institutions, pension funds, insurance companies and the like may hit £11,000m to invest in the future this year. Apart from gilt-edged,

they can spend it on foreign shares as well as United Kingdom equities and property. The Prudential Corporation with a will last year.

Unless the supply of conventional gilt-edged dwindles, series of inflation proof stocks will almost surely siphon money away from ordinary shares. I say almost, because the Government could yet public spending or suck in a lot of National Savings.

Meanwhile, we listened the Chancellor, smiled at Wa Street's eight-year high as took company news in its stride. Lucas Industries, in vehicle and fashionable aeroplanes turned profits of £123m in pre-tax losses of £27.47m in the half year to January, but the directors maintained the dividend in the hope of better times. The shares danced.

Coates Bros, in printing and chemicals, thinks it has touched bottom after a fall but it can see no sign of upturn. The dividend was maintained, and up went the shares. Arthur Bell, the "Afor" go whisky group, boosted profits and paid more shares rose with retail. The shares little bit tickled the shares in Rothmans International, the tobacco group, and for a time Royal Bank of Scotland, rode high on suggestions of a counter bidder in Standard Chartered.

Savoy shares were jolly in the hope that Trusthouse Forte might succeed in buying the group. But there is always something going the other way. Insurance were upset by huge underwriting losses from Prudential and Eagle Star.

Peter Wainwright

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE 2

OFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH

EXCUSE ME, SIR,
I WOULD BE
A SPONSOR...

TO MY RUNNING IN
THE LONDON MARATHON...

SURELY... IF
YOU'LL BECOME
A SPONSOR TO
MY OVERHEADS...

FOR MOTHER'S DAYS

Property bonds

Building on firm foundations

On the face of the recession, property as an investment has held up remarkably well, showing a steady growth throughout. The general view of property and fund managers is that this steady growth will continue with no dramatic ups or downs in the foreseeable future.

The property market—at the "prime properties"—has suggested off the combination of high interest rates and recession. Instead it has focused property values and rental with.

It is the familiar story of demand for prime properties far outstripping the supply that has held up values, with the result that the yields have risen from their historically low levels. Yields on first class properties and offices, at best, are around 3.5 per cent and per cent respectively.

Financial institutions, such as insurance companies and pension funds, still have vast amounts of cash ready to commit to the property market. As investment fund managers use it, if you put a prime property on the market you are asked over in the rush of potential buyers.

For this reason, fund managers do not expect to see yields on prime properties fall in the accompanying fall in property values—from their present levels.

While the market for first class properties remains exceptionally strong, the "second-hand" properties, such as shops and offices which are not in particularly good locations—have weakened over the last

year. The extent of the weakness depends on the properties. The best secondary properties, which almost classify as "prime properties", have in general, escaped this setback.

Industrial property, which enjoyed popularity a couple of years ago, has fallen from favour as far as property bond managers are concerned. Unlike prime shops and offices, the yields have risen slightly over the past year but as in the secondary property market in general, the market is patchy. While some areas, especially in the South-east have held up, it is in the North where industrial properties have been hardest hit by the recession.

Rental growth, the other factor affecting property values, has held up surprisingly well. However, although rents have been rising, down and fund managers have few illusions about an immediate pick up.

Managers generally believe that the property market, unlike in 1973/4, has come through this recession unscathed. In the last recession some property investors had their fingers badly burnt. This time round, though, the market is based on much more solid principles and is generally immune to the levels of short-term interest rates.

If you are looking to invest in property, there is no need to rush in order to make the most of any turn around in the market. The stability of the market in recent years means it has not hit a low from which to rise. Instead, according to fund managers, the market will continue to see a steady rise.

The rental side of the mar-

ket, though, offers increased growth potential. "In my view the letting market will improve towards the end of this year and in 1982, as the economy comes out of the recession," says Mr Ray Milton, manager of the £38m Abbey Life Property Fund. Other fund managers endorse this view predicting a strong market next year.

Property bond funds have not been nearly as exciting or lucrative investment over the past year as equity funds. Nevertheless, just over half of the forty or so funds available have at least matched, if not bettered the 12.5 per cent rise in inflation.

Surprisingly the weakness in the accompanying table has been Irish Life's fund, usually a good performer. While the fund shows a marginal improvement of 2.5 per cent over the last six months, it has actually dropped by 3.1 per cent over the past six months.

The reason behind these poor figures is currency fluctuations rather than property investment. Since the English pound and Irish punt parted company, the latter has suffered as a result of the strength of sterling. With 70 per cent of the fund invested in Ireland, these currency movements have taken their toll. Ignoring the currency element, the fund has risen in value by 9 per cent and 21 per cent over the past six and 12 months respectively.

The currency fluctuations are a blow to Irish Life which is looking to the United Kingdom as its growth area. It is also a blow for investors who went into the fund for the property prospects on the strength of its hitherto strong performance.

Irish Life feels that this is a good time to get into its property fund to take advantage of possible favourable currency movements as the strength of sterling declines. This might prove sensible advice if you are looking for a quick gain but if it's a longer term property investment you want, there is no crystal ball to tell you how the pound and punt will perform against each other in the longer term.

Sylvia Morris

LARGER PROPERTY BOND FUNDS

pany	Fund size	Min. Invest.	Percentage price increases based on offer prices with net income reinvested to March 1 over 2					
			3mths	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	10yrs	
Life	438	750	4.3	15.4	39.8	59.1	103.8	157.7
Days Life	25	1,000	4.1	10.6	33.4	58.8	—	—
Non	31	500	5.8	12.1	28.1	44.8	78.9	154.3
Nbro Life	246	1,000	4.7	11.5	31.6	49.2	85.3	—
Samuel	22	1,000	4.8	10.2	40.6	61.1	83.3	122.9
Life	96	1,000	3.1	2.5	20.5	48.1	103.7	189.9
Investors	35	500	4.5	14.2	38.8	56.5	103.9	122.0
Life	23	500	3.8	7.7	25.5	41.9	80.2	—
erty Growth	40	1,000	6.2	9.9	24.9	41.6	54.8	84.8
to & Prosper	40	1,000	6.4	10.8	29.1	41.7	77.8	—
burgh Life	65	1,000	6.5	13.4	33.8	51.6	86.8	—

Source : Planned Savings.

Source: Planned Savings.

Life assurance

Mutual offices and unit-linking

Unit-linked life assurance looks as if it will continue to be a popular form of investment. Not only are there significant tax advantages compared with direct investment in the underlying securities, but in many cases individuals themselves would not otherwise be able to engage in that kind of investment.

For instance, how else could you have a small interest in a diversified property portfolio? Nor would you be likely to want to invest through overseas stock exchanges by yourself, although, of course, unit trusts do offer that facility.

One reason why unit-linked policies are becoming so popular is because in good times the profits emerge much more quickly than with the traditional profit-sharing method, where (despite the introduction of terminal bonuses) profits are "smoothed" over a significant period. The latter means that even if times are bad there is probably enough in the kitty to maintain the rate of terminal bonuses, although not necessarily, if there is a sharp drop in long-term interest rates which looks as though it might continue for some time.

With the enormous growth of unit-linked business, who takes the risks and who enjoys the profits?

The first point to establish is that a life office's profits from unit-linked business are not quite the same as the profits distributed in the form of bonuses with traditional policies. With the latter, the premium for a profit sharing policy is significantly higher than for a comparable non-profit policy. That provides some of the profit for distribution to the policyholder as a bonus; and then, of course, there are the investment profits.

With a unit-linked policy the premium is "loaded" only for administrative expenses and for a modest profit, none of which can be enjoyed by the policyholder. He gets his profit (he hopes) from the rise in the value of the units to which his policy is linked, resulting from skilful investment by the investment managers.

With traditional business, it is customary for a proprietary office to allocate more than 90 per cent of the distributable profit to the profit-sharing policyholders, with the shareholders taking the balance. Although there are variations, it is usual for the whole of the profits, however derived, to be apportioned in this way.

With a mutual office, since there are no shareholders, the whole of the distributable profits are shared among profit-sharing policyholders, which is one of the reasons why mutual offices are so well placed in most "league tables" showing profit-sharing policy maturity values.

With unit-linked business, however, the position is different. With the traditional office, such as Hambro Life, the shareholders receive all the distributable profit from the business, because there are no profit-sharing policyholders.

Many "household names" have entered the unit-linked sector, such as Legal and General, Sun Alliance and Sun Life. Here, normally a separate company has been set up for the unit-linked business and it is the shareholders who take all the profit. With Vanbrugh Life, for instance, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Prudential, it is the Prudential shareholders, and not the Pru's profit-sharing policyholders, who will share in its profits.

Remember that the setting-up costs of these unit-linked operations have been met by the shareholders. No profit-sharing policyholder can say that part of the profits which should have come his way have been spent on setting up the unit-linked side of the business.

If, therefore, you have a personal pension policy from Sun Life Group, where you can switch from profit-sharing to unit-linking and vice versa, at will, you will share in the profits when "profit sharing", but not when you are "unit-linked".

With a mutual life office, however, the profit-sharing policyholders will ultimately benefit from the whole of the profit from the unit-linked business, even if it is conducted through a subsidiary company. Here, I am thinking of such offices as Standard Life, London Life and Equitable Life.

Companies like these set unit-linked business as being, ultimately, a profit-making area which will benefit the profit-sharing policyholders. That is fair enough because, effectively, the profit-sharing policyholders have put up the money for the operation and will lose if it should fail.

John Drummond

You must apply now to qualify for the 1980/81 tax concessions
OFFER CLOSES ON APRIL 4th 1981

Pioneer

High Income Bond

Minimum

12.4%

up to

Maximum

14.5%

Tax Free p.a.*
equal to 17.71% gross

Tax Free p.a.*
equal to 20.71% gross

Plus your original investment returned in full at the end of 4 years

How the Bond works
Pioneer's High Income Bond is designed so that you may enjoy the benefit of the tax relief currently allowed on life assurance premiums. The Bond is a combination of five policies. Four single premium policies and one ten year annual premium policy which is a "qualifying" policy for tax purposes.

Your investment is divided between these policies to ensure that each year one of the single premium policies matures to provide your high income and the next annual premium on your ten year annual premium policy. The endowment policy is automatically terminated after four years and twenty days when you will receive a guaranteed surrender value equal to the full amount you originally invested.

Higher Rate Tax Payers
The structure of the Pioneer High Income Bond also provides advantages for higher rate tax payers. As an example the following table illustrates the high rates of return available to someone aged 65 years

Rate of tax	Net return
45%	11.16% p.a.
50%	9.88% p.a.
70%	8.57% p.a.

Additional Life Assurance Benefits
In the event of your death whilst the Bond is in force you will receive the full amount of your original investment.

Age at entry	Income p.a. Net	Gross
Up to 59	12.4	17.71
60-64	12.5	17.85
65-69	12.7	18.14
70-74	12.9	18.42
75-79	13.2	18.85
80-84	13.7	19.57
85 and over	14.5	20.71

For basic rate taxpayers

The Pioneer Guarantee
The safety and guarantee on your investment is provided by Pioneer Mutual Insurance Company Limited whose origins go back to 1839. Pioneer is a member of the Life Offices Association and has 44 offices throughout the country serving over 1.5 million policyholders.

Life Assurance Premium Relief
The annual rates of return illustrated in this advertisement assume basic rate tax at the current figure of 40% and Life Assurance Premium Relief at 17.5% on the first annual premium and 15% each year thereafter. Any future legislation changing these rates will in turn affect the net income payments, but only marginally. You are entitled to enjoy this tax benefit provided that your total gross annual life assurance premiums, under this arrangement and any other qualifying policy, do not exceed £1,600 or 10% of your income, whichever is the greater. In the case of a married couple the limit is shared equally between them.

How to Invest
Simply complete the proposal form and send it with your cheque and documentary evidence of your age. In due course you will receive confirmation of acceptance. The minimum investment is £500. These high rates on offer are dependent on your investment running the full term and earlier encashment is not available. You should therefore consider very carefully that a four year term meets your requirements. If you are in doubt about any aspect you should consult your financial advisor or telephone Pioneer Mutual direct at the telephone number listed in the application.

This advertisement is based on Pioneer's understanding of present law and inland revenue practice. The Company reserves the right to adjust the benefits payable in respect of any levy under the Policy Holders Protection Act 1976.



Pioneer Mutual Insurance Company Limited
Pioneer House, 16 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool L2 0NY. Telephone: 051-428 6655

Form of proposal for a Pioneer High Income Bond (To be completed by the Proposer and Life to be Assured)

Surname
Mr/Ms/Miss
Christian
Names
Address
Occupation
Date of Birth
Investment £
Cash should be made payable to Pioneer Mutual Insurance Co. Ltd.

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Registered No 72873 England Registered Office 16 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool L2 0NY

The new Henderson Global Technology Trust.

Excellent capital growth prospects.

Over recent years advances in technology have been steadily improving the health, comfort and productivity of human life. And now more than ever we look to technology for further advances. We look to seismic technology and recovery techniques to locate and produce the gas and oil we need. In computer technology to improve the productivity of offices and factories, to electronics to improve communications, to agricultural technology to multiply yields and eradicate disease, and to medicine to lengthen man's productive life span.

Historically high technology companies and those that finance them have prospered and there is little doubt that technology is the growth investment of the 80s. The electronics sector of the Stock Market, for instance, contains many of the all-time top performing shares and there is enormous reason to expect continued growth in the forefront of technology to continue to flourish for many years to come.

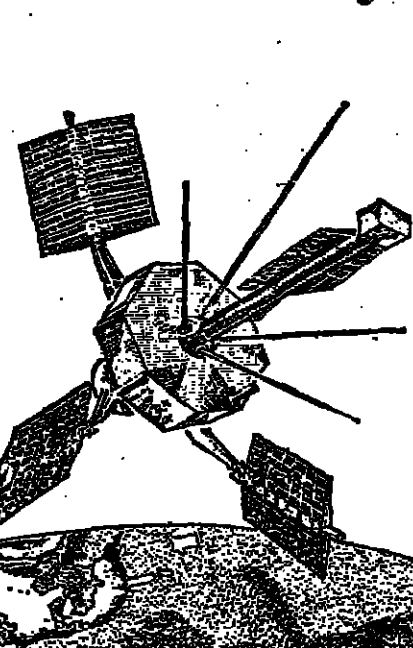
International spread.

Henderson Global Technology Trust has been formed specifically to invest in companies throughout the world which are exploiting technological innovation. The trust will invest in companies involved in such fields as semiconductor, electronic instrumentation, computer hardware and software, computer graphics, laser sensors, spectrometry, data transmission, satellite communication, defence electronics, seismic detection, pharmaceuticals, micro-biology and medical equipment.

Since companies of this type have a tendency to reinvest their profits to finance further growth and development, it is expected that the trust will produce a relatively low gross yield, initially estimated at 0.08%. The short term sacrifice of income should serve however to boost the long-term opportunities for capital growth.

Income is paid half-yearly on 23rd February and 23rd August. The first distribution is paid on 23rd February 1982.

Your chance to invest in tomorrow's world. Today.



Management expertise.

During nearly 50 years of managing funds that total approximately £200 million, Henderson Administration have established a reputation for outstanding investment performance—not only were they nominated as unit trust managers of 1980 by the Daily Express and Investors Chronicle but the Sunday Telegraph recently stated "It is no coincidence that the likes of... Henderson... appear in the top bracket year after year. Their investment managers have shown that they are the best in the field, certainly over the last five years or so, and there is no reason to suppose they will not continue to lead the way."

It is planned that much of the portfolio of Henderson Global Technology Trust will be invested in the USA and Far East—areas in which because of excellent contacts on the ground Henderson have achieved particularly successful investment results in the past.

To invest in the new Henderson Global Technology Trust at the fixed launch offer price of 50p simply return the application form below with your remittance, either by direct or your professional adviser, to arrive not later than 16th April 1981.

You should remember however that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. And you should regard an investment as long term.

Additional information.

An initial charge of 5% on the assets (equivalent to 4.76% of the issue price) is made by the managers when units are issued. Out of the initial charge, the managers pay commission to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. The Trust does not provide for an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within six weeks of payment. To all units endowment unit certificates will be issued in the morning. Payment will normally be made within six weeks of payment.

Unit Trusts are not subject to Capital Gains Tax; moreover a subscriber will not pay this tax on a disposal of his units unless his total realised gains in any tax year exceed more than £3,400. Income and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times.

Trustee: William & Glyn's Bank Limited
Managers: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 11 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2ED (Registered office)
Reg No. 836,263. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

Schroders

Schroder Australian Fund

A major opportunity for capital growth down under

Australia—a land of vast potential
Australia possesses a wide range of natural resources including base metals, precious metals and energy. Take just three examples, the country is currently 70% self-sufficient in oil and also has massive reserves of shale oil which may prove to be a new and major source of fuel oil. During the second half of this decade, it has vast reserves of coal, much of it steam coal, a keenly sought after commodity and finally, existing proven reserves of uranium account for 18% of the Western world's known deposits and it is thought that additional large deposits almost certainly exist.

A new fund
This new fund was formed through the utilisation of the Australian and International Trust Limited, a publicly quoted investment trust which was incorporated in 1981 and managed by I. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited.

Investment Policy
The investments are concentrated in those sectors of the Australian economy which are considered to offer above average growth prospects. Investment outside Australia may take place, probably within the Pacific basin but to an extent which will not exceed 10% and is unlikely to exceed 5% of the portfolio.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Holding in units may normally be bought or sold on any business day at prices quoted in a current national newspaper. Applications will be considered on receipt of your instructions and certificates will be despatched within 28 days.

Charges
An initial charge of 5% is included in the price of units. A half-yearly charge of 1% is deducted from income. This Trust does not pay a return on the initial charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Investors on applications bearing their share:
Income Distribution of net income (not including any 30 March and 30 September)
Management Schroder Unit Trust Management Limited (Member of the Unit Trust Association)
40 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EL Regd. Office, 200 Cheapside, London EC2V 4NS. England No. 155622
Trustee: William & Glyn's Bank Limited.
This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

The Schroder Group manage assets exceeding £3,750,000,000

To Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Enterprise House, Leamwood Road, Portsmouth PO1 2YW. (Telephone 0705 27733) wish to invest (minimum £500) £
In the Schroder Australian Fund at the price of 55p. A cheque is enclosed payable to Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd.
Please allocate income/accumulation units. (Circle as applicable)

Would like more information on Schroder

Surname (check letters please)
First name(s)
Address
Date

Schroders
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS
Managers of Unit Trusts

Share Exchange Scheme
Regular Savings Single
Premium Income Scheme
Financial Planning

Signature (where the Unit Trust Manager must sign)

TO: Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd, Dealing Department, 5, Bayle Road, Hutton, Epsom, Surrey CM13 1AA 01-588 3622
I/We wish to buy _____ units in Henderson Global Technology Trust at the fixed price of 50p per unit (minimum initial investment 1,000 units).
I/We enclose a remittance of £_____ payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.
This offer will close on April 16, 1981, or earlier at Managers' discretion. After the close of this offer units will be available at the daily quoted price.
This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Surname Mr/Ms/Miss
Christian or First Name(s)
Address
Signature(s)
Date
(If there are joint applicants each must sign and attach name and address separately)

SHARE EXCHANGE SCHEME
Our Share Exchange Scheme provides a favourable way to switch into this Unit Trust. For details please tick box or telephone Malcolm Cooch our Share Exchange Manager on 01-588 3622

Henderson
Unit Trust Management

Little profit takin

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

